Hafa Adai!

FDA, CHCC warns public vs sodium chlorite products. PAGE 2

Salvation Army mobile feeding program resumes Saturday. PAGE 6

75¢

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PEACE MEMORIAL

Members of the Micronesia Repatriation Association, Okinawa Gov. Yasuhiro Tamaki, and Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang pose for a souvenir picture after the 50th Okinawa Peace Memorial at the Okinawa Peace Tower in Marpi. Tonight, the Mayor's Office and the Governor's Office will jointly host a dinner party for the Okinawans at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

'Not enough time'

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

The time it takes to submit a petition for a foreign worker in the CNMI—from announcing the job vacancy to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services approval—is too short and, as currently set up, does not give CNMI employers enough time to jump through all the hoops.

> The system doesn't allow sufficient adjudication time.
> —Alex Sablan

The Northern Marianas Business Association Corp. wants to stress that point, with NMBAC president Alex Sablan saying the most important issue at this point is to expedite the processing time for

See TIME on Page 4

Possible penalties vs IPI weighed

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC may have already paid in full its annual casino license renewal fee of $15 million, but the Commonwealth Casino Commission is reviewing the possible penalties that could be imposed on IPI for its delayed payment.

IPI did pay but did so in two tranches. The full payment was due on Aug. 12, 2019, and IPI only managed to pay $5.5 million. It was then given 15 days to settle

See IPI on Page 4

'Rota power supply now stable'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The electric power supply on Rota is now stable, with the island now enjoying enough reserve power capacity, according to Commonwealth Utilities Corp. Rota resident director David Atalig.

» Power generation capacity now at 5.6 megawatts

In his report to the CUC board during Monday's meeting, he said that their total electric power generation capacity

See ROTA on Page 4

NASA scientists fly over Greenland to track melting ice

In this photo taken on Wednesday, Aug. 14, 2019, icebergs are photographed from the window of an airplane carrying NASA Scientists as they fly on a mission to track melting ice in eastern Greenland.

AP

By SETH BORENSTEIN
AP SCIENCE WRITER

ABOARD A NASA RESEARCH PLANE OVER GREENLAND (AP)—The fields of rippling ice 500 feet below the NASA plane give way to the blue-green of water dotted with irregular chunks of bleached-white ice, some the size of battleships, some as

See NASA on Page 4

RELATED NEWS

- Earth's future is being written in fast-melting Greenland. **PAGE 20**

INSIDE

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Promoting local products and supporting them is what Marianas Creations Café is all about.

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Acrimony between Brazil and European countries seeking to help fight Amazon fires deepens.

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SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

Local

FDA, CHCC warns public vs sodium chlorite products

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration issued a warning yesterday to the public against consuming sodium chlorite products that are being sold online as "treatments."

This comes soon after the FDAS received reports of consumers getting sick after consuming these products.

The Commonwealth Health Care Corp.'s Bureau of Environmental Health received a notice from the FDA yesterday to inform the public, especially online shoppers, not to purchase or drink "Miracle" or "Master" Mineral Solution or other sodium chlorite products.

According to CHCC spokesperson Zoe Travis, the products are known by various names, including Miracle or Master Mineral Solution, Miracle Mineral Supplement, MMS, Chlorine Dioxide Protocol, and Water Purification Solution. When mixed according to package directions, they turn into a strong chemical that is also used as bleach.

The FDA first warned consumers about the products in 2010, but the products are still being promoted on social media and sold online by many independent distributors.

Consumption of chlorine dioxide products can cause nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and symptoms of severe dehydration. The FDA has received reports of consumers who have suffered from severe vomiting, severe diarrhea, life-threatening low blood pressure counts caused by dehydration and acute liver failure after drinking these products.

The CHCC urges to public to see a doctor as soon as possible, if any has contracted a negative reaction to any of these products. ***(Marc A. Venus)***

Alleged overstayer pleads guilty, gets 6 days in prison

A Chinese tourist who allegedly overstayed in the CNMI and was found working as an illegal taxi driver on Saipan pleaded guilty yesterday in federal court and was sentenced to six days in prison. He was given credit for time served and will immediately be deported.

Xiaomei Wu, 30, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to unlawfully produce an identification document as part of a plea deal. Wu was arrested last Friday.

He was sentenced to the six days he has been in jail, placed on one year of supervised release, and required to immediately report to immigration authorities for deportation proceedings.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona said that if Wu is not immediately deported and is released pending further immigration proceedings, he must report to the U.S. Probation Office to begin his term of supervised release.

He was also ordered to pay a $300 fine and $100 in special assessment fee within one week after yesterday's sentencing.

After the hearing, Wu was remanded to the custody of the U.S. Marshal for the processing of his release papers.

According to the minutes of the hearing, assistant U.S. attorney Eric O'Malley and Wu's court appointed counsel, Robert T. Torres, both agreed to waive the filing of a presentence investigation report before proceeding with sentencing.

O'Malley recommended that Wu be sentenced to a term of time served and be made to pay a $500 fine.

Torres recommended six days of imprisonment, with credit for time served.

According to the factual basis of the plea agreement, Wu conspired and agreed with another person on May 24, 2017, to produce a false identification document in exchange for several hundred dollars worth of groceries. The other person helped him to fraudulently obtain a CNMI driver's license by presenting a falsified U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Form I-797 as evidence of lawful status in the CNMI.

With the other individual's assistance, Wu obtained a fraudulent CNMI driver's license on July 1, 2017 and presented that license to a federal law enforcement last Thursday, Aug. 22.

According to Nicole Sively, special agent with Homeland Security Investigations, HSI agents checked records and discovered that Wu is a citizen of the People's Republic of China who had overstayed his CNMI-only conditional parole.

Records showed that Wu entered the CNMI on March 3, 2017, and was granted a CNMI-only parole by U.S. Customs and Border Protection that was to last until March 11, 2017. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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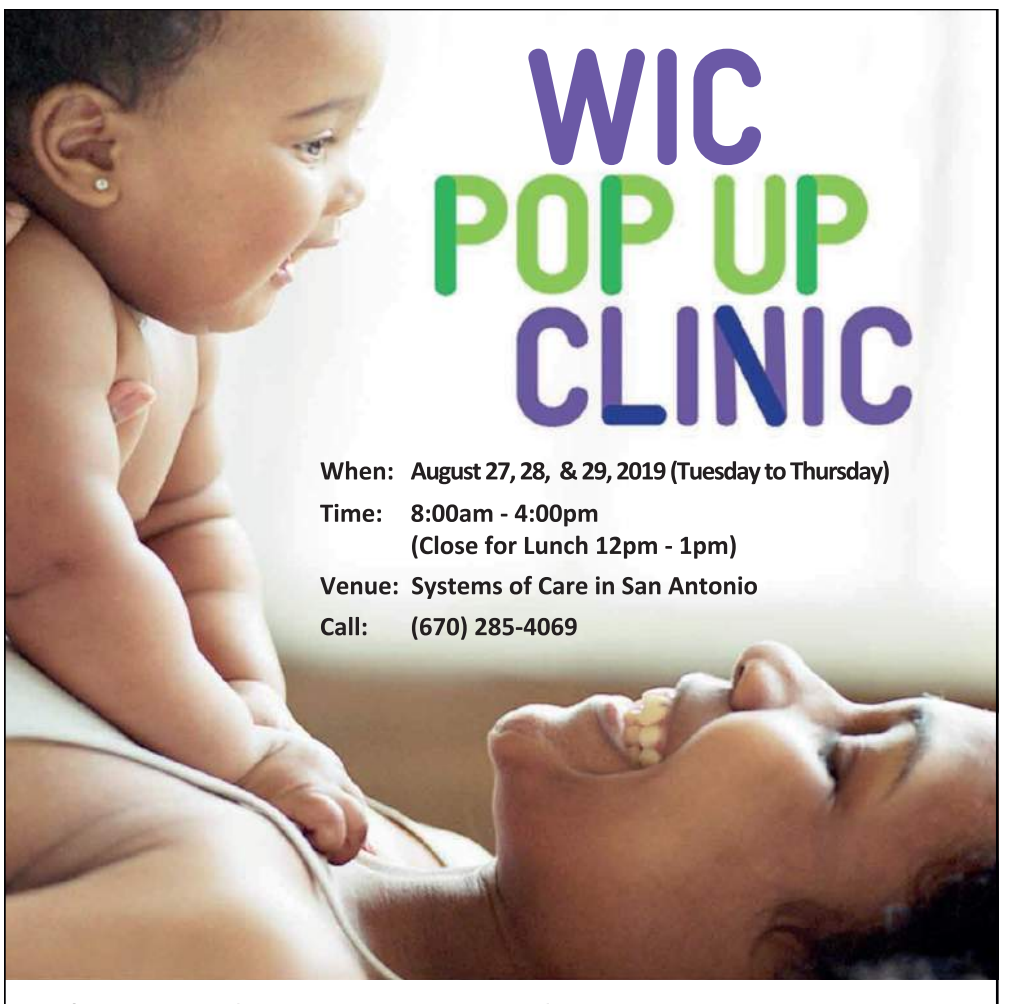

WIC POP UP CLINIC

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‘NMC did not cancel any class or program’

By MARC A. VENUS
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REPORTER

Despite the government-wide austerity measures, the Northern Marianas College was able to open its fall 2019 semester with all of its courses and classes.

In an interview with interim NMC president Frankie Eliptico, he said NMC offices have been observing austerity schedules, with offices being open only for four hours on Fridays and will be continuing to do so until further notice. He assured that this has no impact on NMC students, as it is only directed to NMC offices and there will still be classes on Fridays.

“We did not cancel any classes or programs,” he said.

Eliptico said that NMC believes this is what is best for its students and being able to keep its classes and programs for the fall semester is a sign of relief for NMC.

On Fridays, NMC offices will be open from 8am to 12pm until further notice. Instead of following the central government’s schedule of not observing office hours on “payless Fridays,” NMC decided to open every weekday and just split the eight-hour cut through half days.

Teachers challenged to care for students

The Public School System welcomed its primary and secondary teachers, and school staff at the Marianas High School cafeteria on Tuesday with a challenge from one student to go beyond academics and teaching, and into building relationships with their students.

Speaking at the welcoming ceremony for teachers, Charles Baybay, an incoming sixth-grade student at Chacha Oceanview Middle School, quoted a teacher who reportedly said, “My students do not need me to learn, they need me to care.”

Baybay understands that to mean that teachers must have the ability to be patient, especially with the different learning paces of their students.

Baybay describes himself as shy and introverted, and he thanked his teachers for helping him get over that fear to become better. He thanked his third grade teacher, Loling Camacho, whom he credits with helping him build self-confidence and see the positive side of everything.

Baybay emphasized the importance of students seeing a teacher care about their successes and passions.

Baybay aspires to become an architect and is currently taking online algebra courses at Khan Academy.

In his remarks, Education Commissioner Glenn Muña thanked all the teachers for their hard work and efforts despite the ongoing issues. He also emphasized the importance of working together, building relationships, and supporting one another.

CNMI State Board of Education chair Janice Tenorio also said that the BOE and PSS will always support teachers. ***(Marc A. Venus)***

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Do the salsa to a brand new RAV4

By IVA MAURIN
iva_maurin@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Put on your party shoes and salsa your way to a brand new 2019 RAV4 LE at this year's Club 200!

Dance your night away and get a chance to win the 2019 RAV4 LE that Atkins Kroll Saipan has donated to the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter as a raffle prize for this year's Club 200.

At $31,000, Saipan's most popular SUV is going to be the biggest raffle prize of the night.

AK Saipan vice president and general manager Clark Boswell announced the sponsorship at the AK Toyota showroom in Oleai last Tuesday, highlighting the Red Cross' role in saving lives and providing relief in times of natural disaster and emergencies.

Atkins-Kroll Saipan vice president and general manager Clark Boswell, left, presents the brand new 2019 RAV4 LE to Red Cross-NMI Chapter executive director John Hirsh as a donation to this year's Club 200.
IVA MAURIN

"We are all especially grateful to the millions of dollars in aid and thousands of labor hours of assistance that the Red Cross-[NMI] Chapter has provided to the islands of Saipan and Tinian in the aftermath of Super Typhoon Yutu just last October," Boswell said.

"Like many of the residents of the islands, many of our AK employees here and their families on Saipan were recipients of Red Cross assistance, so we thank you all very much for that," Boswell added.

ARC-NMI Chapter executive director John Hirsh thanked AK Saipan for the donation and for its constant support to the humanitarian organization over the years.

"Atkin Kroll's presence for 105 years is also a testament to all the generosity that they have provided not only to Red Cross but to so many different organizations in the community that are out there helping people," Hirsh said.

This year's Club 200 event, themed "Latin Nights," will be held on Oct. 12, Saturday, from 6pm to 10pm, at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan in Garapan.

"We are celebrating diversity and tipping our hats to all the countries in Latin America, so we are going to have food and music and dance that reflects the great diversity of Latin America. There will be a salsa and costume contests, and all kinds of fun activities," Hirsh said.

Tickets, priced at $100 per person, and $150 for VIP seating, are available islandwide at select retail locations, including the AK Toyota showroom in Oleai. AK customers can also come in and do a test drive at the showroom, and be eligible for a lucky draw for tickets to see Club 200.

'Let's help PSS'

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan) urged the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation in a session last Monday to help the Public School System as it grapples with its financial woes, to which delegation chair Rep. John Paul Sablan (R-Saipan) said he intends to do.

» SNILD chair: I intend to

During the delegation session's miscellaneous section, Propst recommended that they look at "helping" PSS, especially since the delegation is expecting a large chunk of money from the casino license renewal fee.

According to Public Law 20-10, the $15 million annual renewal fee that Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC is required to pay the CNMI every year is to be distributed to Saipan ($11 million), Rota ($2 million), and Tinian ($2 million).

"…With this big chunk of money coming in, I would like us to seriously…consider helping PSS, to meet with the commissioner and talk about their financial needs that is immediate," he said.

At the time of the delegation session, IPI has paid only a portion of the annual obligation. Once the entire amount is paid, Propst said the delegation could to meet with Education Commissioner Glenn Muña. IPI paid the renewal fee in full last Tuesday.

"I kindly ask that you meet with the commissioner," Propst said, addressing Sablan. "… This is something we really need to consider. School is about to open and they need help."

In a later statement to *Saipan Tribune*, Sablan noted that, even without Propst's recommendation, he intends to assist PSS.

"…As the chairman of [the delegation] and with the damage our schools have incurred from Super Typhoon Yutu, I strongly feel that it is fitting for the delegation to assist PSS with our schools here on Saipan," he said.

While Saipan is allocated $11 million of the $15 million annual casino license renewal fee, P.L. 20-10 allocates $1.5 million to the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance program, effectively leaving the delegation with only $9.5 million to work with.

No legislation has been introduced yet as of publication.

IPI

From Page 1

its obligation and IPI managed to make a $10.5 million payment last Tuesday—the last day that was given to it to pay up.

The commission did inform IPI of its deficiency, said CCC executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero in an interview yesterday. "The complaint [notes] that [IPI] must cure [the violation]. One of the main [ways to cure the violation] was to pay—and they did that," he said. "The next [aspect of the complaint] are the sanctions involved with not paying on time."

According to the Casino License Agreement, which the CCC enforces on IPI, any delayed, partial, or the non-payment of "…any amount due and payable" constitutes a breach.

A breach in the CLA can result in the casino license being suspended or even revoked.

Had IPI not paid its annual obligation within the given time of 15 days, they ran the risk of having their license suspended, Deleon Guerrero said. He added that the CCC complaint had noted that, if IPI does not settle its obligation within 15 days, a hearing will be held to look at a possible suspension of its license.

With the settlement of the obligation, the commission continues to review their regulations for possible penalties that could be imposed on IPI, the most stringent of which is a maximum monetary fine of up to $50,000, Deleon Guerrero said.

"We are looking at CCC regulations for their late payment. We have a sanction of up to no more than $50,000 per violation," he said. "We are going to count starting Aug. 13, 2019," referring to the amount of time the casino licensee was late in paying.

"The warning was sent out on Aug. 19, 2019, because we had to do our own due diligence," Deleon Guerrero added.

ROTA

From Page 1

is now at 5.6 megawatts.

The peak load is only between 1.5 and 1.7 megawatts, he added.

Atalig said Mitsui No. 1 power generator is currently supplying power to the island at 2.0- megawatts.

The Caterpillar power engine and the new Cummins Genset No. 4 generator have been installed and are on standby. Each generator can produce a capacity of 1.8 megawatts.

Rota's power generation capability was compromised several months back when two of its main power generating units experienced problem. That prompted the CUC board to declare an emergency situation on the island last January and call for the creation of a reserve power capacity. A generator set was later procured and installed.

Atalig said they are thankful that, with the CUC management's swift decision, a technical team from CUC Saipan was dispatched to Rota to rehabilitate one of the generator units. At the same time, the CUC board decided to procure a power engine to replace one generator. That led to the purchase of a Caterpillar engine with a capacity to produce 1.8 megawatts of power.

Together with a new Cummins Genset Number 4 that had been previously purchased, Atalig said that CUC Rota now has a lot of reserve power.

"We have brought back stability to generate power," said Atalig, who expressed gus appreciation to the CUC board, executive director Gary P. Camacho, and CUC's technical team.

Atalig said CUC's technical team "did a fantastic job."

With respect to the water generation situation on Rota, Atalig said their main water cave continues to produce 460 gallons per minute, which is enough to serve the entire island.

He said their Sinapalo water reservoir, which is their back-up when something is wrong with the main water supplier, is at full level.

Atalig said one water well is also on standby, producing 140 gallons per minute.

"As you can see, there is no problem with the water situation on Rota. We have [an] abundance of water," he said.

NASA

From Page 1

tall as 15-story buildings.

Like nearly every other glacier on Greenland, the massive Kangerlussuaq is melting. In fact, the giant frozen island has seen one of its biggest melts on record this year. NASA scientist Josh Willis is now closely studying the phenomenon in hopes of figuring out precisely how global warming is eating away at Greenland's ice.

Specifically, he wants to know whether the melting is being caused more by warm air or warm seawater. The answer could be crucial to Earth's future.

Water brings more heat to something frozen faster than air does, as anyone who has ever defrosted a steak under the faucet knows.

If Willis' theory that much of the damage is from the water turns out to be correct, he said, "there's a lot higher potential for Greenland to melt more quickly than we thought." And that means seas rising faster and coastal communities being inundated more.

Greenland contains enough ice to make world sea levels rise by 20 feet if it were all to melt. In a single day this month, it lost a record 13.7 billion tons (12.5 billion metric tons) by one estimate.

"It's a little scary," Willis said as looked down on an area filled with more water than ice. "We're definitely watching the ice sheet disappear in front of us."

Climate change is eating away at Greenland's glaciers in two ways. The most obvious way is from the warm air above, which has been brutal this summer, with a European heat wave in July working like a hair dryer on the ice. The other way is from warm, salty water, some of it from North America's Gulf Stream, nibbling at coastal glaciers from below.

TIME

From Page 1

foreign worker permits, called CW-1 permits.

In response to Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan's (Ind-MP) statement on Monday that the required prevailing wage survey should have been done earlier, Alex Sablan said that, even if the PWS had been completed as early as April 4, 2019, the time frame as it stands is still too tight.

"It still doesn't explain the delay in the current numbers. What we need is to move forward and recognize that the system doesn't allow sufficient adjudication time for wage determination, advertising, [Temporary Labor Certification], and [USCIS] permit processing and we need a reprieve from this issue or our economy collapses without a sufficient workforce," he told *Saipan Tribune* in a statement last Tuesday.

In Kilili Sablan's statement last Monday, he noted that the NMBAC previously recommended that employers wait for the completion of the prevailing wage survey before submitting for their CW petition requirements.

The PWS was completed in late June 2019.

Alex Sablan defended the organization's recommendation, adding that it was "simply economics."

"The NMBAC recommended to employers not to file for [U.S. Department of Labor] TLC because the prevailing wage presented was for Guam and U.S. national wages and our economy was and currently still is in a recession," he said. "It's simply economics—allowing for a more organic growth of wages in the CNMI and not imposing other jurisdictions' wages on the CNMI's depressed economy. As it stands, wages in many categories doubled and tripled and is causing families to pay wages to restore their homes at wage rates beyond their ability to pay."

"We hope Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) are successful in intervening and providing the reprieve needed to keep our economy growing while balancing the required hiring of U.S. citizens," he added.

In a four-page letter dated Aug. 26, 2019, the Chamber expressed a similar need for intervention.

Kilili Sablan has yet to confirm whether he received the Chamber letter, but *Saipan Tribune* learned yesterday that Chamber president Velma Palacios has already talked with the delegate about the letter.

The NMBAC is a coalition of different business groups in the CNMI, including the Saipan Chamber of Commerce and Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands.

MVA, partners host golf media and agents

To further promote the Marianas as a premiere golf destination, the Marianas Visitors Authority teamed up with HK Express and Century Tours to host a familiarization tour for golf media and agents on Aug. 8-12 on Saipan.

In line with this, eight participants from China and Hong Kong—representatives of Golf 007, TM Golf, Golf Song of joy, Rightway Tours Ltd, H.C. Patterson & Co., Ltd, Stanley Travel, Greenice Tours Ltd, and Enterprise Travel Service Ltd.—joined the 2019 Governor's Tournament of Champions last Aug. 10-11, 2019.

"The participants highly commended Laolao Bay Golf & Resort for its beautiful scenery and excellent golf course," said MVA marketing manager Thomas Kim. "They also expressed belief that, based on what they saw and experienced on Saipan, there is a lot of potential to attract more golf visitors to the Marianas."

During the familiarization trip, the group inspected the Kingfisher Golf Links, Kensington Hotel Saipan, T Galleria by DFS, and Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, where they stayed during the tour. The tour members also experienced other activities to help them better promote the Marianas, including a UTV tour, shopping at ARC, and dining at RufinaTropicals, Hard Rock Café Saipan, Fiesta Resort & Spa cultural dinner show, and Ladder Beach Restaurant. Iconic sites, including Bird Island, Mt. Tapochao, Banzai Cliff, Last Command Post, San Juan Beach, and Santa Lourdes Shrine, were also visited. ***(PR)***

Golf media and travel agents from China and Hong Kong visit Bird Island Lookout on Aug. 11,2019. as part of their familiarization tour, which was hosted by the Marianas Visitors Authority, HK Express, and Century Tours.

MVA

Scheduled power outages on Friday

There will be scheduled power interruptions this Friday, Aug. 30, from 9am to 11am and from 2pm to 4pm.

The morning outage will be a sectionalized lateral outage on the Kiya 2 and Kiya 4 distribution circuit and will affect partials of Susupe, partials of Chalan Kanoa, and Chalan Piao.

■ Power service area(s) affected: Guma Hustisya, DPS, Mt. Carmel School, Bank of Guam Chalan Piao Branch, Hopwood Middle School, Juan Nong Street, San Isidro Ave. (Sandy Beach Hotel)

■ Water service area(s) affected: None

■ Wastewater service area(s) affected: A-9, A-11

■ Traffic lights affected: Chalan Piao traffic light

■ Work to be performed: To replace the temporary conductor jumpers that were installed during Super Typhoon Yutu at Chalan Piao-As Perdido intersection and near the Kanoa Resort barracks in Susupe.

The afternoon outage will be a sectionalized lateral outage on the Feeder 2 distribution circuit, affecting Route 30 Beach Road and impacting Commonwealth Utilities Corp. customers from the Horiguchi Building to the Marianas Visitor Authority building, Alaihai Ave.; Chicharica Ave.; Route 317; Pupulu Drive; Dotse Place; Chaoti Place, Alalak drive, Pumpkin Street

■ Power service area(s) affected: Route 30 Beach Road (from Horiguchi Bldg-US District Court to Marianas Visitor Authority), Alaihai Ave.; Chicharica Ave.; Rout 317; Pupulu Drive; Dotse Place; Chaoti Place, Alalak drive, Pumpkin Street

■ Water service area(s) affected: None

■ Wastewater service area(s) affected: S-10, S-11, S-12

■ Traffic lights affected: Atkins Kroll traffic light

■ Work to be performed: Install new air break switch near Moylan's Insurance beach road.

The purpose of the power interruption is to de-energize the primary lines to allow CUC line crews to safely install new air break switch and replace conductor jumpers in the affected locations.

Water services may be affected in the area during the power interruption; however, all services should be restored after the power is re-energized.

Because of the scale of work that will be performed, CUC asks travelers to take alternate routes or to exercise caution when driving through the affected areas. CUC appreciates the understanding of the community during this period.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor its Facebook page for the latest updates (https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporationl). ***(PR)***

Humanities awardee to present NMI history

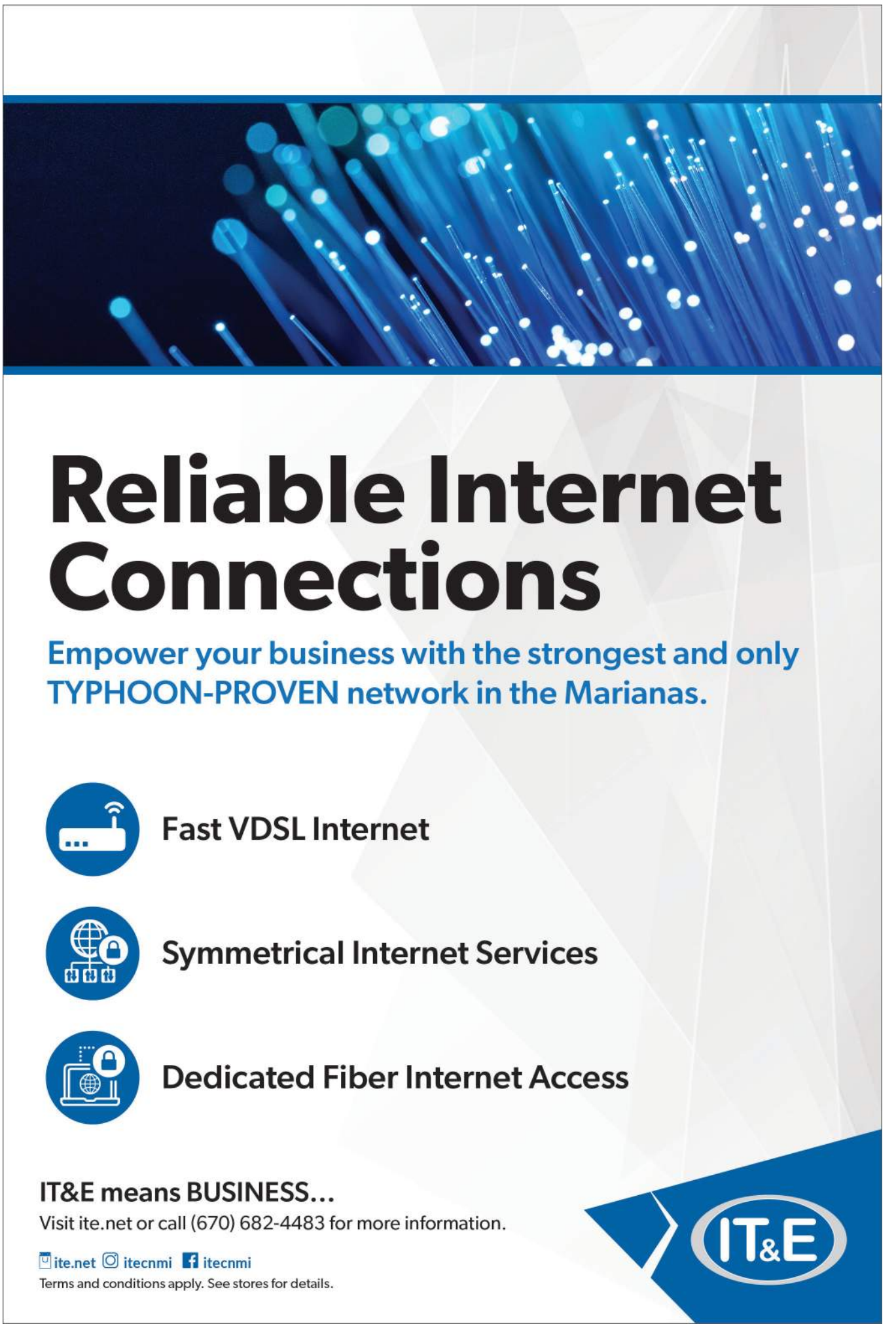
The Northern Marianas Humanities Council is inviting everyone to the "Islands Too Beautiful for their Names" presentation by former Saipan resident Dr. Jessica Jordan at the American Memorial Park Theater on Tuesday, Sept. 3, from 6pm to 8pm.

Jordan will talk about the oral histories of the Japanese empire and the Pacific War in the Northern Marianas, based on her doctoral dissertation, which relied largely on interviews with indigenous elders in the Marianas as they lived through the Japanese colonial rule and World War II.

Jordan currently serves as an assistant professor of Regional and Cultural Studies at the Asia Air Force Culture and Language Center at the Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama.

She is a recipient of the 2015 Annual Governor's Award for Research and Publication in Humanities in recognition of her doctoral dissertation, which she completed in 2015 at the University of California, San Diego.

This event is organized by the Northern Marianas Humanities Council, and funded in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities. For more information, contact the council at 235-4785. ***(Iva Maurin)***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Salvation Army mobile feeding program resumes Saturday

Hungry members of the community could go to three distribution sites this Saturday, Aug. 31, when the CNMI Salvation Army goes full-blast with its mobile feeding program.

The distribution points will be at the Kagman Community Center parking lot, Chalan Kanoa, and the Koblerville Youth Center parking lot.

In response to demographic changes, the Salvation Army recently closed its fixed-site feeding program (soup kitchen) in Gualo Rai and, instead, expanded its mobile feeding program.

"Delivery sites have now been designated and an initial schedule put into place," said ministry leader pastor Annie Gillespie.

The deliveries resume this Saturday, and will continue on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at the Kagman Community Center parking lot at 11am; in Chalan Kanoa (homeless feeding point-for homeless clients only) at 11:45am; and at the Koblerville Youth Center parking lot at 12:30pm.

Clients can simply drive up or walk up and tell the Salvation Army how many people are in their family, then take their meals home to eat them.

Ministry leader pastor Wayne Gillespie said the mobile feeding program will only be hosted at the delivery sites. That means food will only be distributed at the site. "We do not own or control them [the area] and eating on the sites is not permitted. Please also note that no litter will be tolerated," said Wayne Gillespie.

The Salvation Army is looking at several ways to conduct a mobile feeding program and their goal is to adapt whichever model works best, and the sites and scheduled delivery times will likely be adjusted.

"Both the sites and the scheduled delivery times will likely have to be adjusted as we gauge client response and several other factors. We are asking our clients to expect things to change as we fine-tune the program," said Wayne Gillespie.

For additional information about the mobile feeding program or the Salvation Army, contact Wayne Gillespie at 483-0885. ***(Iva Maurin)***

Torres disappointed with court ruling

Lawyer Vincent Deleon Guerrero Torres said yesterday he is obviously disappointed with the Superior Court's decision that dismissed three of the four claims in his lawsuit against E-Land World Co. Ltd. and others.

Asked for comments about the dismissal order, Torres said the court's order states that he should file the claim as derivative lawsuit on behalf of the corporation, but that as far as he is concerned there are only two shareholders of Suwaso Corp.

A derivative action refers to a lawsuit brought by a shareholder of a corporation on behalf of the corporation to enforce or defend a legal right or claim.

E-Land is the majority shareholder of the Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort. Suwaso Corp. owns COP.

Torres said Yusuke Fumoto sold all of his shares to Micronesian Resort Inc., which leaves only him (Torres) and MRI as the shareholders of Suwaso Corp.

"I am suing MRI for committing perpetration acts in this case. Since I am the sole minority shareholder and since the perpetrator is MRI, the majority sole shareholder, I should be entitled to sue MRI directly," he said.

The lawyer said he has two options: file a motion for reconsideration or appeal to the CNMI Supreme Court.

In an order on Monday, Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho dismissed Torres' claims for fraudulent concealment and usurpation of corporate opportunity, breach of fiduciary duty, and assisting a breach of fiduciary duty.

Camacho ruled that shareholders lack standing to maintain claims for corporate harms as direct actions, and such claims must be brought derivatively, regardless of the size of the corporation.

Torres sued the defendants for allegedly failing to provide a proper accounting, embarking upon a scheme to misappropriate business opportunities and funds, and negotiating loans of over $5 million without proper authorization.

Named as defendants in Torres' lawsuit are E-Land World Ltd., Suwaso Corp., MRI., and Dennis Seo.

In 2012, Marianas Resort Inc. and Yusuke Fumoto agreed to sell his 85 percent ownership interest in Suwaso to MRI. Torres remains a minority shareholder of Suwaso stock, holding a 15% ownership interest.

Torres originally filed the suit in the Superior Court. The defendants then asked to transfer the lawsuit to the District Court. The defendants also asked the District Court to compel all Torres' claims to arbitration before the American Arbitration Association.

In April 2017, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona granted Torres' motion to remand the case to the Superior Court as to his four remaining claims.

Manglona granted the defendants' motion to compel arbitration as to Torres' first cause of action, fraudulent misrepresentation.

Robert T. Torres, Lee H. Rubin, and Justin I. Park are counsel for the defendants. ***(Ferdie De La Torre)***

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

INVITATION TO BID (ITB)
ITB19-CHCC/IT-MIHI-002

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 06, 2019 TIME: 10:00 AM

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/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ CORAZON P. ADA
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP19-CHCC/CGC-021

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 09, 2019 TIME: 11:59 PM

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THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

*MANDATORY ASSESSMENT ON AUGUST 29, 2019
@ 9:00 A.M. SAIPAN TIME @ COMMUNITY GUIDANCE
CENTER, GLORIA DRIVE, NAVY HILL

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ SUBROTO BANERJI
ACTING CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-19-014, Rev.1

SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF PRIMARY SCREEN, GRIT & FOG REMOVAL EQUIPMENT

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified vendors for the supply and delivery of Primary Screen, Grit and Fog Removal Equipment for the Sadog Tasi Wastewater Treatment Plant at CUC Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and scope-of-work will be emailed to all registered prospective proposers email ID. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

A Proposal Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposal price must accompany the proposals. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or proposal bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety.

One (1) original and four (4) hard copies, must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-RFP-19-014, Rev.1, Supply and Delivery of Primary Screen, Grit and Fog Removal Equipment for the Sadog Tasi Wastewater Treatment Plant, Saipan"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **September 16, 2019 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 23, 2019** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator at email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Westen Knudsen, P.E., Senior Engineer for Water/Wastewater at email address westen.knudsen@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrative Technician, Senior at email address christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM GILMORE
Acting, Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-19-031

SAN VICENTE WATER TANK REPLACEMENT PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified vendors for the Construction of San Vicente Water Tank Replacement Project in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consist of removal of existing 0.5 million gallon steel tank, yard piping, concrete vaults, and all other appurtenances; one (1) additional boring at the center of the existing tank; design and construction of the new 0.75 million gallon pre-stressed concrete water tank and foundation; installation of new water tank piping, valve vaults, control valves, and other appurtenances; construction of new perimeter security fencing and facility lighting; construction of new asphalt concrete access road; and installation of temporary storage tanks at the San Vicente Tank site. The project also includes installation of PSV station with flowmeter at the Dandan Tank site. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications and without disruption to the daily operation of the water system.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in 365 calendar days from date of award of contract.

The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **August 21, 2019** at 10:00 AM (ChST) at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the bid MUST be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-IFB-19-031, San Vicente Water Tank Replacement Project"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 9:00 AM (ChST) September 6, 2019**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on **August 22, 2019** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Kirztie Reyes, Water Division, Jr. Engineer via email address kirztie.reyes@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, CUC P&S, Purchasing Technician, Senior – christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM GILMORE
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

Court asked to prevent Settlement Fund from suing Commonwealth

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and the CNMI government, through the Office of the Attorney General, asked the federal court on Tuesday to prevent the NMI Settlement Fund from prosecuting the Commonwealth in Superior Court.

Lillian A. Tenorio, the deputy attorney general, insists that the settlement agreement in Betty Johnson's class action against the CNMI government and the NMI Retirement Fund makes it clear that the Commonwealth is forever relieved of additional suits or complaints from the Settlement Fund, unless related to enforcing the settlement deal.

A final settlement in Johnson's case was reached among the parties, including the NMI Retirement Fund and the Commonwealth, in August 2013.

Despite that, the Settlement Fund, now substituted in place of the NMI Retirement Fund, filed a complaint in the Superior Court on April 10, 2019, that sought to recover unpaid pension obligations against the Commonwealth.

This action, Tenorio said, is prohibited by the terms of Johnson's settlement agreement.

Accusing the Commonwealth of not paying its pension obligations, the Settlement Fund suit alleges breach of contract, violation of the Commonwealth Constitution, violation of a CNMI statute, violation of the federal contracts clause, and for "void assignment of debt."

Tenorio said filing the complaint against the Commonwealth is prohibited by Section 29 of the Johnson settlement agreement. She said the settlement was intended to be a full and final agreement, where "each and every claim that has been alleged, or could have been alleged, in the Johnson action, shall be settled and compromised."

Early this year, the NMI Settlement Fund asked the Superior Court to temporarily stay or suspend the proceedings in its lawsuit against the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and the CNMI government over CUC's alleged $4.4 million liability with the Retirement Fund.

The NMI Settlement Fund, through counsel Nicole M. Torres-Ripple, said a three-month stay is warranted because the questions raised in CUC's and CNMI government's motion to dismiss the lawsuit require interpretation of the settlement agreement in Johnson's class action in federal court.

In 2013, the U.S. District Court for the NMI gave final approval to the global settlement agreement in Johnson's class action against the CNMI government and the NMI Retirement Fund.

With the final approval, all Retirement Fund assets were transferred to the Settlement Fund and administered by a court-appointed trustee.

In the Settlement Fund's emergency motion for temporary stay, Torres-Ripple said the District Court has continuing and exclusive jurisdiction over the interpretation and enforcement of the settlement agreement in Johnson's lawsuit.

Torres-Ripple said a stay is necessary to give the Settlement Fund enough time to request the District Court's determination on issues raised by CUC and the CNMI government relating to the interpretation and enforcement of the settlement agreement.

Last June, the NMI Settlement Fund trustee, through counsel Torres-Ripple, asked the District Court to issue an order enforcing the Johnson settlement agreement and finding that the claims asserted in the Superior Court case were not resolved by the settlement deal.

The NMI Settlement Fund filed the two motions in the Superior Court and in the District Court after CUC and the CNMI government, in their motion to dismiss the Settlement Fund's lawsuit, argued for the first time that the Johnson settlement agreement resolved CUC's liabilities in the Superior Court lawsuit.

In CUC's motion to dismiss the lawsuit, CUC counsel Jose Mafnas Jr. asserted that the CNMI government absorbed all liabilities owed the NMI Settlement Fund as of Aug. 6, 2013, through the settlement agreement in the Johnson class action.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Public Lands Secretary Marianne Teregeyo, standing front left, joins other officials and employees of the Department of Public Lands for a souvenir photo at the department's third professional development seminar at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan.

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Friday
Aug 30, 2019
8AM-3PM

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-19-024

W-6 Sewer Lift Station Elimination

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the W-6 Sewer Lift Station Elimination in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The project consists of the installation of gravity sewer main, new service laterals, connection to existing laterals, the abandonment of existing sewer manholes, and the elimination of the old W-5 wet well and the W-6 sewer lift station.

The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and CUC. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

CUC requires the project to be completed in **270 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The IFB package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **September 12, 2019 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No. 7, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) Original and Five (5) Hard Copies of the bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked ***"CUC-IFB-19-024, W-6 Sewer Lift Station Elimination"*** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 27, 2019**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of *fifteen percent (15%)* of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The bid guarantee may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. A Performance Bond of *one hundred percent (100%)* of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC. A Payment Bond of *one hundred percent (100%)* of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers questions, concerns and qualification should be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. The award of a contract may be contingent upon the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) approval. If CPUC approval is required, the contract will not be executed by CUC until such approval is provided. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 16, 2019** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org, with a copy to Larry Manacop, Water/Wastewater Engineer via email at larry.manacop@cucgov.org, Nicolette Villagomez, Water/Wastewater Engineer via email at nicolette.villagomez@cucgov.org, and Ms. Christie Sablan, Purchasing Technician, Senior, via email address at christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY BOYER SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

NEWS BRIEFS

Quakes hit Northern Islands

A 4.9-magnitude earthquake occurred 101 kilometers east of Farallon de Pajaros in the Northern Islands yesterday at 2:15am. There were no reports of casualties or damage. No tsunami warnings or advisories were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center.

Last Sunday, Aug. 25, a 4.8-magnitude earthquake occurred 11km southwest of Agrihan, also in the Northern Islands. There were also no reports of casualties or damage. nor tsunami warnings or advisories.

For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at 237-8000. ***(PR)***

USCIS rejecting Form I-129 petitions that lack required name and address

Starting last Aug. 5, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services began rejecting Form I-129, Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker petitions that do not include the petitioner's or applicant's name and primary U.S. office address in Part 1 of the form.

USCIS will subject all requests for nonimmigrant classifications filed on Form I-129 to this rejection criteria, including the time-sensitive H-2A visa classification for temporary agricultural workers. Those completing Form I-129, including agents and preparers who are not eligible to submit or are not otherwise recognized on a valid Form G-28, Notice of Entry of Appearance as Attorney or Accredited Representative, must ensure Part 1 contains the petitioner's or applicant's name and primary U.S. office address. USCIS recognizes that in certain circumstances, the person signing Part 8 of Form I-129 may be an employee of the petitioning entity and have the same address as that of the petitioner named in Part 1 of the form. In such a case, USCIS would not reject the Form I-129 because of the duplicate addresses.

Because of the time-sensitive nature of the H-2A visa classification in particular, we remind H-2A petitioners that failure to follow this guidance may result in rejections of their petitions, adding time to the H-2A process. ***(PR)***

Cultural heritage month observance

To kick off Chamorro and Carolinian Cultural Heritage Month, the Office of the Governor will be holding a proclamation signing ceremony today, Thursday, Aug. 29, 2019, at 10am, in the Office of the Governor's conference room.

Chamorro and Carolinian Cultural Heritage Month is intended to provide more opportunities to showcase the CNMI's unique cultures and traditions. As Chamorros and Carolinians, we need to continue to educate and inspire our younger generation on the importance of our ways of living. The sustainable protection, safeguarding, preservation, conservation, promotion of, as well as the dissemination of knowledge and practices of our indigenous cultures is beneficial for the social, economic, intellectual, artistic and cultural development of the current and succeeding generations. ***(PR)***

Scheduled water service interruption

The areas of As Matuis, San Roque, Achugao, Tanapag, and portions of As Mahetog will experience water service interruptions until Friday, Aug. 30, from 8:30am to 3:30pm as leak detection personnel from both AIC Marianas, Inc. and the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. conduct leak detections for damaged water lines and repairs throughout the affected areas as part of an ongoing project. This will enhance CUC's capability to isolate problematic areas in the future to perform repairs and maintenance and reduce inconvenience to our consumers. ***(CUC)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-19-025

ROTA WATER CAVE ENCLOSURE

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of Rota Water Cave Enclosure in Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists of the installation of a new concrete CMU block wall enclosure, screened aluminum doors, drain pipes, fencing upgrades; and other related work. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications and without disruption to the daily operation of the water system.

This project is funded by a grant from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Public Law 20-61.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **180 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **August 30 , 2019 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Rota Directors Office, Sinapalo, Rota.

One (1) Original and Five (5) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-19-025, Rota Water Cave Enclosure"**, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on September 19, 2019**. Bid Submissions will be publicly opened and read aloud at 10:15 AM (ChST) the same day. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety
company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing **no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on September 3, 2019** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Edgar Tuazon, Water Division, Jr. Engineer via email address edgar.tuazon@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, CUC P&S, Purchasing Technician, Senior via email address christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM B. GILMORE
Acting, Executive Director

MANNY BOYER SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
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www.dcrm.gov.mp

Eli D. Cabrera
Administrator

Janice E. Castro
Director, DCRM

PUBLIC NOTICE
MEETING OF THE CRM AGENCY OFFICIALS

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios through the Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) hereby give notice that a CRM 2nd Agency Officials meeting will be held on ***Tuesday, September 03, 2019, 3:00PM*** at the BECQ Floor Main Conference Room, in Lower Gualo Rai, Saipan.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Adoption of Agenda
- D. Adoption of August 5, 2019 Meeting Minutes

II. PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW
- A. CRM Permit Application No. TMS-2019-X-020
  Project: XINGSHA HOTEL PROJECT
  The Tinian Hairui Real Estate Co., LLC is proposing to construct the Xingsha Hotel along Avenue and Kammer Beach, Lot No. 040 T 06, in San Jose, Tinian. The proposed project consists of three 3-story building complex with a total of 138 unit guest rooms, 112 parking spaces, storage area, control room, lobby and reception area, snack bar, and kitchen and dining areas with seating of about 24 persons. The proposal includes landscaping of plants and trees.
  1) Agencies' Discussion of Application Status
  2) CRM Permit Application Final Determination

III. OTHER MATTERS

IV. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony regarding the above agenda items. (NOTE: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session).

/s/ JANICE E. CASTRO
Director, DCRM

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Hafa Adai!
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EDITORIAL

The Amazon is burning and Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro doesn't care

The fires raging at the edges of the Amazon rainforest are, at the moment, largely consuming lands that had already been converted from their natural state into tracts waiting to be farmed or developed. Nevertheless, some of the blazes are eating away at the rainforest itself, reducing its size by a football field a minute. And one of the most disturbing things about them is that they aren't part of the cycle of nature, like a California wildfire might be, but are intentionally set in many cases to get rid of brush and felled trees to make way for soy fields and beef grazing grounds. That reflects Brazil's troubling return to a policy of deforestation that, if unabated, could have grave consequences for efforts to counter the worst effects of global warming.

The reason the Amazon is burning is because Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro, who followed Donald Trump's populist, anti-establishment playbook to win election last year, wants it to. He thinks the Amazon should not be protected, and that lands reserved for indigenous peoples should not be recognized—all in the name of economic growth. That see-no-evil approach is another point Bolsonaro has in common with Trump, who has sought to make an alarming amount of public lands available for oil and gas drilling and other extractive industries, such as uranium mining—the health of the planet be damned.

At the just-concluded G-7 meeting in France, international leaders criticized Bolsonaro for his land-use and environmental policies, which include telling those who would cut the rainforest that his government would no longer stop them. So the rate of deforestation, while still far below what it had been a dozen years ago, has been increasing. The G-7 also announced more than $20 million in aid to Brazil and Bolivia for firefighting equipment—a drop in the bucket considering the need, advocates say—and French President Emmanuel Macron pledged to put together an alliance to push for reforestation.

Bolsonaro was not receptive; he accused the leaders of embracing colonialism by telling Brazil what to do. But there's nothing colonial in asking a neighbor to stop lighting fires that affect the rest of us.

The Amazon rainforest, with its vast canopy of trees and other lush vegetation, removes about 5% of the global carbon humans emit into the atmosphere every year. That positive effect is offset to a degree by the carbon released by burning brush and trees in and around the rainforest, as well as by the cattle that roam the range that is taking up acreage carved from the rainforest—much of whose beef is destined for foreign markets.

So what does the deforestation of the Amazon have to do with us? When it comes to carbon, we are an inextricably

See AMAZON on Next Page

Trying to crash Trump's economy

By REX HUPPKE
Chicago Tribune

Rex Huppke is a Chicago Tribune columnist. Readers may send him email at rhuppke@chicagotribune.com.

As a member of the news media in good standing, I would like to apologize for desperately trying to tank the American economy by accurately reporting on what's happening with the American economy.

That was a deeply unpatriotic thing for me to do. I should have known the correct path forward is to embrace everything President Donald Trump and members of the coequal branch of his administration at Fox News say, regardless of how false or glaringly inaccurate those statements might be.

My behavior has been foolish and I am probably a Communist. For that I am sorry and will report to the nearest federal prison upon completion of this column.

The error of my ways was pointed out earlier this month by noted truth-teller Lou Dobbs of Fox Business, who said: "Wall Street firms and the leftist national media (are) talking down the Trump stock market and the Trump economy today. Their focus, obviously, 2020 and putting a radical 'dim' in the White House."

Busted. Two things people in my thriving industry are known for are working in concert with "Wall Street firms" and wanting to crash the economy, on account of we journalists already being so financially stable and wealthy and whatnot. We also are known as huge supporters of "radical dims."

Trump, the first American president to adapt the innovative governing technique of watching Fox News all the time and simply repeating what his friends inside the TV box say, quickly chimed in with a tweet: "The Fake News Media is doing everything they can to crash the economy because they think that will be bad for me and my re-election."

Honestly, when my Fake News Media friends and I cooked up this whole plot to crash the economy by relaying factual economic information and interviewing people who are experts in their fields, I never imagined it would unravel this fast.

Ainsley Earhardt, a host on the president's favorite morning news-fantasy show "Fox & Friends," was quick to criticize us fact-spewing economic naysayers: "I'm watching this and I'm like, it's so obvious what they're doing. They do not want him to win again. And they don't like that the economy's doing well, apparently."

Darn us for being so obvious!

If there's one thing a person like me, in a business that has been about as stable as a rocking chair on a roller coaster, hates it's economic stability. So, naturally, I exerted the immense power I wield over global markets and set off on a crusade to make the president of the United States look bad.

That was rude and selfish. I and my colleagues in the news media should not have reported on a recent 800-point drop in the Dow Jones Industrial Average brought on by signals from the bond market that a recession could be coming. We should have kept that information to ourselves and simply said the Dow "had a whoopsie" or that it was Hillary Clinton's fault.

We should not have written anything about Trump's trade war with China or pointed out the harm it is doing to American farmers. In particular, we should not have repeatedly pointed out that Trump's claim that China is paying America billions of dollars in tariffs is a farcical lie and that tariffs are effectively a tax on American consumers.

We should have just lied and agreed with the president. That's what a real American would do.

When President Trump recently said, "Our consumers are rich. I gave a tremendous tax cut," we should have smiled and agreed rather than pointing out that most Americans are not, in fact, rich and the "tremendous tax cut" only benefited the wealthiest Americans. We should have buried the nonpartisan Congressional Research Service report that found the tax cuts didn't lead to an increase in investment, aren't paying for themselves as promised and have had little if any impact on wages.

We should have stuck only to the positive elements of the economy: unemployment is low; the economy is growing at a decent clip; and wages are rising.

The fact that Trump himself is floating ideas that sound like the kind of things a president would do if he was worried about an economic downturn—things like pushing the Federal Reserve to cut interest rates and considering a temporary payroll tax cut—should be wholly disregarded as the conspiratorial ramblings of the malevolent left-wing media.

The non-truth is that the American economy is in great shape—the best shape in all of human history—and everything Trump is doing is fantastic and brilliant and 100% working just right.

I'm sorry if I ever suggested otherwise or presented information that in any way conflicted with President Trump's selfless comments about the amazingness of the American economy he single-handedly fixed.

I'm sorry I truthed on you, America. It won't happen again.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Rewrite the Constitution? Only with great caution

The U.S. Constitution provides two methods for its own amendment. We're familiar with the first: Amendments may be proposed and approved by two-thirds of the House and Senate and then ratified by three-fourths of the states. This method has been used successfully 27 times.

The second method has never been used. Article V stipulates that upon the "Application of the Legislatures of two thirds of the several States," Congress is obliged to call "a Convention for proposing Amendments."

The states have never forced Congress to convene an assembly to amend the Constitution, though many legislatures and individual interests have tried. For example, the Florida-based Balanced Budget Amendment Task Force claims to have 28 state legislatures on board, needing only six to reach the 34 required to force a convention.

And last year a writer for the Federalist Society claimed that—depending on how you count—33 states have called for a constitutional convention, just one away from the required threshold.

As a rule, efforts to call a convention originate with the political right and they tend to focus on single issues. But others have argued for a constitutional convention open to all amendments—in other words, a potential complete rewrite. What could go wrong?

Here's an example of why this is a bad idea: Several years ago, Tex. Gov. Greg Abbott issued a 92-page document that hopes to improve upon the Constitution in ways that reflect his conservative perspective.

The so-called "Texas Plan" includes drastic provisions, such as ones that would allow a two-thirds majority of the states to overrule a Supreme Court decision or that would prohibit Congress from regulating any activity that takes place wholly within a state. Any?

Abbott focuses a lot of attention on the "Spending Clause." In 1796, he notes, two-thirds of Savannah, Ga., was consumed by fire. Many members of the fourth Congress opposed any federal aid to Savannah, Abbott says, because such a "bailout" was not listed among Congress's enumerated powers. Aid for Savannah was voted down, 55-24.

But times have changed. Since Hurricane Harvey hit in 2017, Texas has received more than $14 billion in federal aid, with billions more in the pipeline. Gov. Abbott hasn't turned any of this money down.

The "Texas Plan" reminds us of the extreme caution that we should exercise with any attempt to amend or rewrite the Constitution, especially by means of state-initiated constitutional conventions, which, with no constitutional guidance, could quickly turn into free-for-alls of ill-considered ideology, hypocrisy, impracticality and unintended consequences.

The Constitution is a splendid document, but its chief lesson is how very, very hard it is to create a founding document that will serve a nation well for decades and even centuries.

Some of the Constitution's worst original flaws have been amended; slavery has been eliminated and women have the right to vote. But anachronisms remain. The Second Amendment and Section 3 of Article I were probably good ideas at the time, but they have not translated well into the modern world.

By JOHN M. CRISP
Tribune News Service

John M. Crisp, an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service, lives in Georgetown, Texas, and can be reached at jcrispcolumns@gmail.com.

Section 3 is responsible for allotting two senators to every state, no matter how big or small. It was the kind of compromise that made the Constitution possible. But it would have been as challenging for the founders to imagine the disproportionate representation that would eventually result in the Senate between, say, California and Wyoming.

So the founders certainly did not bestow on us a perfect document. But they may have hoped that we would be inspired by the Constitution's aspirations, which are probably the world's best expressions of what a nation can be. The overarching goals are Union, Justice, Tranquility, Welfare, the Blessings of Liberty. These aspirations should enable us to live with the flaws in the document. And a senator from Wyoming can pursue these goals as diligently as one from California.

The Constitution's weaknesses do not prevent us from striving hard toward its best aspirations. Doing so will serve us better than trying to amend its weaknesses, especially in a constitutional convention.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Our political future

The time has come for us to address the mounting problems that have been choking our economy before things get worse.

As a Commonwealth, we've experienced the ups and downs of our economy, starting with the arrival of Japanese investors and tourists as well as the garment industry. But they're history. We then experienced the investment and tourism boom from China, which currently enjoys a visa waiver program. However, with Trump's ongoing economic war, China may force us to look elsewhere for tourists and investors.

It's bad enough that China has already warned its citizens to not travel to the U.S. as a safety precaution. Add the expensive headaches with major ongoing projects (that hotel next to PIC and IPI's hotel, etc.), which remain unfinished as well as those still in the planning stages and we may just lose the China market also. Should that happen, who shall replace China? Vietnam? Taiwan? The Philippines? Get real.

Whatever, the possibility of our economy experiencing another hiccup remains and, should it slide out of control because our nonresidents (investors, tourists, workers and their families) leave, economic revival for the Marianas may require a miracle but only after many suffer repossessions and foreclosures on their homes and properties.

So here are some of the key points of contention.

The one thing common to all of our investors, our tourists, and nonresident workers is immigration. The U.S. controls our immigration, which forces us (the employers who actually foot the bill) to remit millions in application fees to the federal government, limits who can come and how long they can stay, and enforces stringent policies and controls over the entire process that apparently were designed to choke our economy and us into submission.

Perhaps the "national security interests of the United States"—as repeated over and over in the 902 report sent to Congress—hides the key and the explanation. The questions remain, what about us? What about our economy? Our future? National security interests? Do you know how physically isolated and remote we are?

All of our issues related to the control of immigration in and out of the Marianas insinuate an escalation of federal policies with intended consequences. Essentially choke the CNMI into submission so that we surrender to the demands of the U.S. and its military.

Given the complaints of the Japanese against the U.S. bases in Okinawa, the loss of Subic Bay and Clark Air Force Base as well as the occasional warming of relations between the two Koreas, the U.S. front line of defense seems to have been redrawn and, unfortunately for us, has placed us in the line of fire.

Russia's President Putin has publicly stated that Russia will develop new weapons systems to target US "territories." Want more? Go to www.newsy.org and read their article on "Countries North Korea Can Currently Hit With Their Missiles." This should open your eyes and, hopefully, your minds as well.

Courses of action are up for grabs but they require zero rhetoric and 100% action. First, we have the option under Section 902 of our Covenant and our delegate to Washington to negotiate with the United States. For starters, our relationship with the U.S. is but a political partnership under the sovereignty of the U.S. This term "sovereignty" is a little dated and has been abused since time eternal to the advantage of superior governments hellbent on exercising "colonialism." But as a self-governing entity, we retain our sovereignty, as do the states.

Bottom line, we need mutual respect with our political partner, we need openness, we need reciprocity, and we need greater autonomy from the U.S. For reminders, a quote from the Covenant under the case of *Sablan vs Inos* 3 N.M.I. 418 (1993): "The people of the NMI entered into the Covenant to become a self-governing commonwealth in political union with and under the sovereignty of the U.S.; they did not enter into the Covenant to become a territory or possession of the U.S., as those terms are used in the U.S. Constitution."

So, questions remain. Why the directed application of federal policies and laws? They inserted Title 7 into U.S. Public Law 110-229, the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008, to take our immigration control because we had "labor" problems and now essentially controls our labor with the applied requirements for CW applications. All costly, time-consuming, a major migraine for all employers and, unfortunately for the CW workers and their families, inhumane.

So, what do we do?

Efforts to assess our political status will only determine which option made available will be chosen by the public. It will not address the core issues unless we change to independence or something similar to the FSM.

At the end of the day, it's the control of our immigration (and labor) that will determine our success or failure as a commonwealth. Perhaps a failure will lead the public to massive self-checks and can potentially change our political status, not to mention all of our lives.

The government we chose was one of the people, by the people, and for the people. Those elected into office need to assess their actions or lack thereof, in fighting for our economy. Our economy, which can either thrive or fail. Should they fail, it is we, the people who shall pay the ultimate price for generations to come.

Noel S. Reyes
Kannat Tabla, Saipan

AMAZON

From Page 10

connected world. The U.S. imports about 156 million pounds of beef from Brazil each year, which means our consumption is tied directly to the deforestation (Brazil is the world's largest exporter of beef). Even Trump's trade war with China has an environmental impact: China is replacing soy that it used to buy from U.S. farmers with soy from Brazilian farmers, which increases the rewards for cutting yet more of the rainforest.

We are all joined by the hard reality that our continued release of carbon into the atmosphere—whether it be from the cars we commute in or the forest Brazilians burn to grow food—is endangering us all. It's a reality not recognized by Bolsonaro. Nor by Trump, who neither joined the criticism of Bolsonaro's policies nor showed up for the G-7 climate talks that led to the fire aid package. Both presidents' disregard for the well-being of the world is, literally, playing with fire. That won't end well.

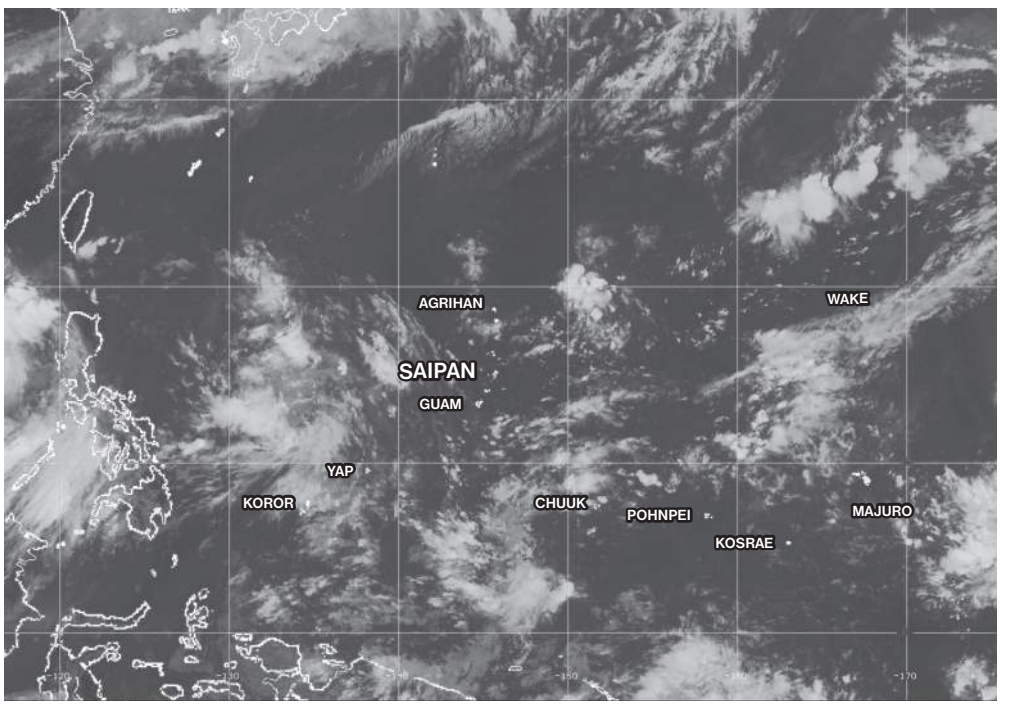
(c)2019 Los Angeles Times

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
88° 78°	89° 78°	88° 77°	88° 77°	88° 77°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 5:41 AM, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28, 2019
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Skies are clearing across the region this morning, as radar shows that showers have almost all dissipated. Seas are less than 3 feet at all the buoys, and winds are gentle.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	85° / 78°
Palau	Thunderstorm	82° / 77°
Yap	Thunderstorm	84° / 77°
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	84° / 78°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	86° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	88° / 77°
Majuro	Thunderstorm	84° / 78°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Showers	59° / 48°
Beijing	Sunny	88° / 61°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorm	88° / 81°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	90° / 78°
London	Partly Cloudy	72° / 55°
Los Angeles	Thunderstorm	84° / 67°
Manila	Thunderstorm	86° / 79°
Melbourne	Sunny	57° / 41°
Miami	Partly Cloudy	88° / 80°
New York	Sunny	85° / 65°
Osaka	Thunderstorm	86° / 77°
Paris	Partly Cloudy	79° / 55°
Busan	Rain	81° / 70°
Rome	Thunderstorm	84° / 70°
Salem	Sunny	91° / 69°
San Francisco	Mostly Cloudy	69° / 58°
Seoul	Sunny	82° / 64°
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	91° / 79°
Washington, DC	Sunny	83° / 63°

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- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
12:24 AM	LOW TIDE	1.21
5:35 AM	HIGH TIDE	2.08
12:47 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.25
7:41 PM	HIGH TIDE	2.08

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:04 AM	6:31 PM
Friday	6:04 AM	6:31 PM
Saturday	6:04 AM	6:30 PM
Sunday	6:04 AM	6:29 PM
Monday	6:04 AM	6:29 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	4:27 AM	5:39 PM	-
Friday	5:31 AM	6:32 PM	-
Saturday	6:35 AM	7:22 PM	-
Sunday	7:37 AM	8:10 PM	-
Monday	8:37 AM	8:56 PM	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 15, 2019

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	9:15am	10:00am	Daily
UA105	6:25pm	7:05pm	2, 4

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:30am	6:30am	4
7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	1:35am	5:20am	Daily
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:35am	1, 2, 3, 5, 7
7C3403	5:00am	8:30am	4
7C3403	5:00am	8:50am	6
7C3401	4:10pm	7:45pm	4, 7
7C3401	4:10pm	8:10pm	1, 2, 3, 5, 6

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	12:05pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA117/183	9:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA117/183	9:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	9:15am	10:40pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:35am	8:25am	1
UO43	5:50am	8:40am	3, 5, 7
UA117/159	9:15am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	7:30am	8:15am	Daily
UA104	4:50pm	5:31pm	2, 4

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3452	9:35pm	2:30am+1	3

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:10pm	Daily
TW307	7:00pm	12:35am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	1, 2, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:40pm	4:10am+1	3, 5

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD395	8:50pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	8:10pm	3:10am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:50pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA192/174	9:45pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA184/174	10:25pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/174	11:30pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:20pm	00:30am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:25pm	1:20am+1	7
UO42	9:25pm	4:20am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/174	10:45pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; BC SkyMark ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

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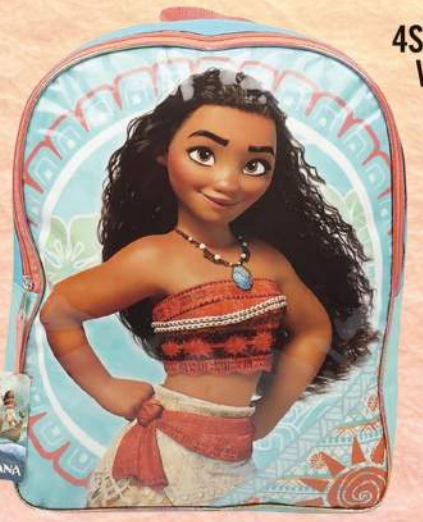

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4SGM - CELLO GENIUS 2PK 0.7MM GEL PEN BLACK

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$10.95

4SGM - WALL CLOCK 12"D QUARTZ IRON

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4SGM - STERILITE 2.3 BUSHEL LIFT TOP HAMPER

$39.95

HOMZ 49GAL PLASTIC TOTE WITH LID

ESSENTIAL HOME BELMONT 4 DRAWER CHEST

$62.95

$85.95

SPORTCRAFT 10X10 INSTANT CANOPY

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PLASTIC DRAWER 7 DRAWER BEE BEAR (3137-7)

$7.95

TOWEL 10PC. SET (309-1)

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MATTRESS & BASE COMBO TWIN SIZE $169.95

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CHARACTER DRAWER 5 DRAWER HAPPY BEAR (6152)

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DAHDOUL-JERUSALEM 5'X8' AREA RUG

$4.95

DALTON 2X3 BOUND RUGS ASSORTED

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MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

Business

Marianas Creations Café: Promoting local products

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Promoting local products and supporting their development is what Marianas Creations Café is all about.

Owners Jay Wolfe and Elina Gharti Chhetri believe products from the Marianas are valuable and want these products to have greater visibility, patronage, and use.

"The Marianas has a lot of unique things to offer to our local population and tourists. We think that the products from the Marianas are valuable because of their origin and we want to bring the products into a bigger market," Wolfe said.

"Marianas Creations is a platform for local producers. People who are making local products, and people who want to make products and introduce these products into the market. We are making a promise whether the product is food or drinks like coffee, liquor, or beer it will have an origin and only produced in the Marianas," Wolfe added.

Currently, the local products on showcase at Marianas Creations are Saipan Noni products and Saipan Snaps cookies. They also serve coffee from Marianas Coffee, Coffee Slut Guam, liquor from Marianas Breeze, and beer from Saipan Brewing Company.

Chhetri said that they welcome more local products to be featured at Marianas Creations. "We are open to any type of products that are made in the Marianas by any producer who is in the Marianas… we are here to offer them space," she said.

"Similar products are in other stores around Saipan are sold but these products are not necessarily locally made…. we think that is important that the consumer has trust that when they buy something from Marianas Creations, they know they are getting a local product," she added

Aside from being a showroom, Marianas Creations is also a café and a mini pub. They serve breakfast, lunch, and dinner. They also have happy hour from 4pm to 6pm.

"We use locally grown ingredients in our food. For some dishes, we use locally and farm-raised meat like the quail bird and micro greens from Island Greens. Even our sauces are 100% made with local tomatoes and peppers," Chhetri said.

"Our aim is to serve 100% local meal and this means that our food menu will change from time to time so that we can use different local products that are in season," she added.

BEA CABRERA

Jay Wolfe making their Nitro cold brew coffee called the Kyle Mulligan which is also available hot. One of the ingredients used is coffee liqueur from Marianas Breeze.

BEA CABRERA

Marianas Creations owners Jay Wolfe and Elina Gharti Chhetri highlights local products produced and made exclusively from the Marianas.

Marianas Creations is also the only café on Saipan that serves Nitrogen Coffee, which is trending in the wellness community because one still gets that sweet taste not from sugar but from the nitrogen foam and French Press if one wants to get a rich and earthy coffee flavor.

Their décor also adheres to using local materials. "Our décor, furniture, and fixtures are home-made and hand-made recycled pallet wood or up-cycled materials…we are also trying to be responsible with our environment footprint and trying to call out to the community that there are a lot of materials in the Marianas that can be re-used." Wolfe said.

"We invite everyone to come in and check out all the things that you can do recycle and up-cycle so you can see how unique and nice it can actually be. We want to host workshops and hopefully get speakers to conduct workshops on how to use products that are already on Saipan," he added.

Marianas Creations is located along Micro Beach Road (beside Everest Restaurant). They are open Monday to Sunday from 6:30am to 9pm. For more information, call (670) 488-1924 or visit them at www.marianascreations.com. Instagram and Facbeook just type marianascreationsaipan

Russian firm sues Boeing over Max jet, says defects hidden

MOSCOW (AP)—A Russian aircraft leasing company that ordered 35 Boeing Max jets is suing the U.S. aircraft maker and seeking to cancel the deal, accusing Boeing of hiding defects in the plane that was grounded after two deadly crashes.

The Miami-based lawyer for the leasing company said Tuesday it is the first lawsuit filed against Boeing by a Max customer. He said he is talking to other companies about joining the case.

The lawsuit on behalf of Avia Capital Services was filed Monday in state court in Illinois, where Boeing is based. It claims that Boeing committed fraud and breach of contract and was negligent in how it designed and built the plane and convinced the Federal Aviation Administration to approve it.

A spokesman for Boeing declined to comment, citing pending litigation.

Avia could become the first customer to cancel a signed agreement to buy the Max as a result of the crashes and grounding. In July, Saudi Arabian discount airline flyadeal backed out of a commitment to order 50 Max jets, but unlike Avia, flyadeal never signed a firm order.

Nearly 400 Max jets that were being flown by airlines around the world have been grounded since March, shortly after the second of two crashes that together killed 346 people.

Avia ordered Max jets in 2012 and was originally set to begin receiving them this year, but the deliveries were delayed. The company is seeking damages of at least $115 million, which attorney Steven Marks said included a $40 million deposit and $75 million in lost profit, plus additional money for punitive damages.

Traveling with pets: No-deal Brexit would make it far harder

LONDON (AP)—All across Europe, families and couples on vacation are seamlessly crossing borders with their beloved dog, cat or even ferret, thanks to the European Union Pet Passport scheme. Now, as a no-deal Brexit looms as a possibility for Britain, free pet travel is under threat.

If the U.K. leaves the European Union on Oct. 31 without a divorce deal—which is increasingly likely under new Prime Minister Boris Johnson—that could result in Britain being chucked out of the pet passport program. And that would hit pet owners on both sides of the English Channel.

Some 250,000 British cats and dogs are taken to the EU on holiday by their owners every year. In 2017, the British government issued over 90,000 pet passports to veterinary practices in the U.K.

Dave Kent, who has relied on guide dogs for 40 years, says the prospect of more paperwork and long waits is alarming.

"It's not like you can leave your dog behind if you've got some business or a holiday in Germany or the Netherlands or Italy, or anywhere else in Europe," he says. "You can't just suddenly go to those countries and rent a guide dog."

In order to vacation in Europe now, British pets need a passport, a rabies vaccine and a microchip. After three weeks, they are cleared to go. Before returning home, animals get a tapeworm tablet from a veterinarian. If the pets' vaccinations are kept up to date, the passport is valid for three years.

Before European pets had their own passports, animals arriving in Britain from the EU had to be quarantined for six months.

The thought of returning to a more complicated system is a worry for pet owner Mark Elsden in Newhaven in southern England, who is used to vacationing in France with his dog Alfie.

"There's no consistency, no information, no certainty about what's going to happen," he says.

The British government's spokesperson on animal issues, Chief Veterinary Officer Christine Middlemiss, says pet owners should prepare for a no-deal Brexit.

In practice, that means that the process of preparing a pet for travel would quadruple.

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
25,777.90	2,869.16	7,826.95
−120.93	−9.22	−26.79
.47%	0.32%	0.34%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.4840	Hong Kong Dollar	7.8468	Russian Ruble	66.4335
British Pound	0.8147	Indian Rupee	70.9895	Singapore Dollar	1.3896
Canadian Dollar	1.3301	Japanese Yen	105.8070	South Korean Won	1193.19
Chinese Yuan	7.0356	Malaysian Ringgit	4.1637	Swiss Franc	0.9818
Euro	0.9017	New Zealand Dollar	1.5783	Taiwan Dollar	30.8917
		Philippine Peso	51.2883	Thailand Baht	30.6015

Nation

TS Dorian expected to strengthen, could hit Puerto Rico

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)—Tropical Storm Dorian threatened Puerto Rico with a direct hit on Wednesday, as forecasters said it made a last-minute shift in its path and could reach near-hurricane strength in its approach to the U.S. territory.

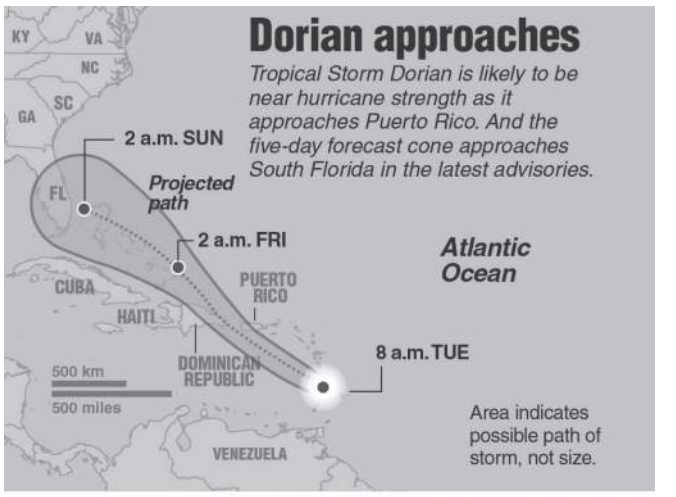
The storm is expected to pass over or near western and central Puerto Rico, with landslides, widespread flooding and power outages possible. President Donald Trump declared an emergency Tuesday night and ordered federal assistance for local authorities.

"Practically the entire island will be under sustained tropical storm force winds," said Roberto García, director of U.S. National Weather Service San Juan, during a press conference late Tuesday.

However, he said the forecast could change overnight, adding that late shifts occur with storms such as Dorian that do not have a well-defined center.

AP

A worn-out surf sail hangs from a pole standing on the beach at a private harbor where several boats are being moved away for protection ahead of the arrival of Tropical Storm Dorian in Boqueron, Puerto Rico, Tuesday, Aug. 27, 2019.



Graphic: Staff, TNS
Source: NOAA, Sun Sentinel

Dorian was located about 275 miles (440 kilometers) southeast of Ponce, Puerto Rico, on Tuesday night. The U.S. National Hurricane Center said it had maximum sustained winds of 50 mph (85 kph) and was forecast to strengthen during the next 24 hours as it moves west-northwest at 13 mph (20 kph). The storm is expected to dump 4 to 6 inches (10 to 15 centimeters) of rain with isolated amounts of 8 inches (20 centimeters).

The change in the storm's course concerned many across the U.S. territory, where some 30,000 homes still have blue tarps as roofs nearly two years after Hurricane Maria. The island's 3.2 million inhabitants still depend on a shaky power grid that has remained prone to outages since it was destroyed by the Category 4 storm.

Jorge Ortiz, a 50-year-old construction worker, was taking no chances. Wiping sweat from his brow, Ortiz climbed up a shaky ladder under a punishing morning sun and tied down pieces of zinc that now serve as his roof because Maria ripped the second floor off his house when it hit on Sept. 20, 2017.

He was forced to rebuild everything himself and finished just three months ago with no assistance from the local or federal government.

"They told me I didn't qualify because it was a total loss," he said, shaking his head as he added that he was wary. "I'm worried that despite all this sacrifice, I'll lose it again."

The U.S. National Hurricane Center issued a hurricane watch for Puerto Rico and a tropical storm warning for Puerto Rico, Vieques, Culebra and the U.S. Virgin Islands. A tropical storm watch was in force for the Dominican Republic from Samaná to Puerto Plata.

Dorian already caused power outages and downed trees in Barbados and St. Lucia, and a still-uncertain long-term track showed the storm near Florida over the weekend.

Although top government officials in Puerto Rico said they were prepared for the storm and had sufficient equipment, a couple of mayors, including those in the western region, said they did not have enough generators or shelters that were properly set up.

Jesús Laracuente, a 52-year-old construction worker who lives in the impoverished neighborhood of Las Monjas in the capital of San Juan, also had doubts about government preparations.

"The people here are prepared. We already learned our lesson," he said, referring to Maria. "What despairs us is knowing that the slightest breeze will leave us without power. It's the government that fails us."

José Ortiz, executive director of Puerto Rico's Electric Power Authority, acknowledged that the distribution system still has weak areas and could "suffer" under winds of 50 to 60 mph. However, he stressed the agency has the needed inventory, including more than 120,000 lights, 23,000 poles and 7,400 transformers.

But Freddyson Martínez, vice president of a power workers' union, told The Associated Press that while the electric grid has improved in some areas, he worries about a lack of power line workers and post-Maria patches which feature lines affixed to palm trees.

"Those are problems that are still being corrected to this day," he said. "These are the realities we have to face with this storm."

The island's transportation secretary acknowledged that crews are still rebuilding roads damaged or blocked by Maria, more than 1,000 of which remain blocked by that storm's landslides.

ACROSS THE NATION

Utah investigates 21 cases of lung disease linked to vaping

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—Utah health officials say they are investigating 21 cases of a severe lung disease linked to vaping. The state Department of Health announced the new number Monday, a jump from the five cases in teenagers and young adults reported last week. The department says the cases stem from the use of a mix of nicotine and marijuana electronic cigarette products. The symptoms of the disease include coughing, shortness of breath, chest pain, fatigue, nausea and vomiting. The department advises that people who vape experience any of the symptoms that they should visit doctors. Health officials say the first five people found with the disease were hospitalized. Their conditions have improved after treatment.

Pair suspected in Arizona killing escape during extradition

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP)—A couple suspected in a Tucson killing have escaped after overpowering two security guards while being extradited from New York to Arizona, authorities said Tuesday. Tucson police said Blane Barksdale, 56, and his 59-year-old wife Susan Barksdale escaped Monday evening in Blanding, Utah, south of Moab. They were last seen in a pickup truck with an Arizona license plate and possibly driving through Arizona, according to police who said the couple was believed to be armed and dangerous. The two were arrested May 24 in Henrietta, New York, in connection with the slaying the previous month of Frank Bligh, 72, in Tucson. The Barksdales were being extradited to Arizona's Pima County where authorities said the two were facing charges of first-degree murder, burglary, arson, felony criminal damage and auto theft.

Police: Florida boy, 10, dies after shot in head by friend

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (AP)—Authorities in Florida say a 10-year-old boy has died after his 14-year-old friend accidentally shot him in the head while the children played with a gun. The Daytona Beach News-Journal reports the boy died Tuesday at an Orlando children's hospital. Daytona Beach Police Chief Craig Capri says the children were visiting the Daytona Beach home of a relative of the teenage boy when the shooting occurred Saturday. Police say the two children broke into a locked bedroom, took a semi-automatic pistol out of a drawer, and were playing when the gun discharged. Officers found the wounded child lying face up on the floor and bleeding from the mouth. Capri says the homeowners were legally able to own the gun and "did what they felt necessary to secure the firearm."

Biden: Racism in US is institutional, 'white man's problem'

WASHINGTON (AP)—Racism in America is an institutional "white man's problem visited on people of color," Vice President Joe Biden said Tuesday, arguing that the way to attack the issue is to defeat President Donald Trump and hold him responsible for deepening the nation's racial divide.

Taking aim at incendiary racial appeals by Trump, Biden said in an interview with a small group of reporters that a president's words can "appeal to the worst damn instincts of human nature," just as they can move markets or take a nation into war.

Biden is leading his Democratic challengers for the presidential nomination in almost all polls, largely because of the support of black voters. He has made appealing to them central to his candidacy and vowed to make maximizing black and Latino turnout an "overwhelming focus" of his effort. The interview, more than an hour long, focused largely on racial issues.

"White folks are the reason we have institutional racism," Biden said. "There has always been racism in America. White supremacists have always existed, they still exist." He added later that in his administration, it would "not be tolerated."

By highlighting the nation's racial tensions and placing blame on Trump, Biden is showing that he, too, is willing to make race a core campaign issue, but from the opposite perspective of the president. Turnout and enthusiasm among black voters will be critical for the Democratic nominee, notably to try to reclaim states like Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin. He also emphasized a crossover appeal to both black voters and non-college-educated white voters.

To accentuate his appeal to black voters, Biden said that he will advertise in black publications and engage with cultural institutions like the black church, black fraternities and sororities, and historically black colleges.

"The bad news is I have a long record. The good news is I have a long record," Biden said when asked about his enduring support among black voters. "People know me — at least they think they know me. I think after all this time, I think they have a sense of what my character is, who I am."

"I've never, ever, ever in my entire life been in a circumstance where I've ever felt uncomfortable being in the black community," he added, suggesting that his familiarity was not matched by many of his competitors.

While he did not specify to whom he was referring, Biden said he believes there are "assertions and assumptions" made about black voters that he believes are inaccurate, and he said that "a lot of people haven't spent much time in the community."

Without mentioning her by name, Biden also referenced California Sen. Kamala Harris' attack on him during the first presidential debate on the issue of busing as a solution to school desegregation.

"All I know is I don't think anybody in the community thinks I am — what's the phrase?" Biden asked, paraphrasing Harris' comment that "I know you're not a racist, Joe."

"I don't think anyone thinks that about me," Biden said.

Asia

Hong Kong leader starts dialogue, but NOT BUDGING ON DEMANDS

AP

Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam speaks during a press conference in Hong Kong Tuesday, Aug. 27, 2019.

HONG KONG (AP)—Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam said Tuesday that she had met with a group of young people about the pro-democracy protests gripping the city, but she showed no sign of budging in a continuing stalemate over the movement's demands.

Lam said she explained the government's position at the Monday meeting, which was closed-door and unannounced. She disputed complaints that her government is ignoring the protesters, whose demands include the withdrawal of an extradition bill, an independent inquiry into what they believe is excessive use of force by police at the demonstrations, and democratic elections.

"It is not a question of not responding," she told reporters before a weekly meeting with her executive council. "It is a question of not accepting those demands."

Hong Kong, a Chinese territory, has seen more than two months of youth-led protests that have often ended in clashes with police. More than 80 people were arrested last weekend after protesters occupied city streets. They built barriers across the roads and threw bricks and gasoline bombs to try to block the police, who used tear gas to drive them away.

Lam announced last week that she is creating a platform for dialogue and said Tuesday that it would include protesters. Opposition lawmakers have questioned the sincerity of her initiative, calling it a delay tactic.

It wasn't clear who attended the Monday meeting with Lam and the education and home affairs ministers. The South China Morning Post newspaper, citing an unidentified source, said about 20 people took part and that they were mostly in their 20s and 30s.

Lam said her government had accepted the movement's main demand by suspending the extradition bill, which would have allowed suspects to be sent to mainland China to face trial. She has declared the legislation dead, but protesters are demanding its formal withdrawal.

The proposal fueled concern that China is chipping away at the separate legal system and rights that semiautonomous Hong Kong has under a "one country, two systems" framework. Huge marches against the legislation have drawn more than a million people, according to organizer estimates.

Protesters have also disrupted subways and the airport, surrounded and spray-painted slogans on police stations and broken into and vandalized the legislative chamber. Not all of the protesters resort to confrontation, but those that do say it is needed because the government is not responding to peaceful demonstrations.

Lam said it would be unacceptable for the government to accede to demands because of such pressure.

"If violence continues, the only thing that we should do is to stamp out that violence through law enforcement actions," she said.

She dismissed any suggestion of her resignation, saying a responsible chief executive should continue "to hold the fort and do her utmost to restore law and order in Hong Kong."

China said it strongly deplores a statement by the leaders of the G-7 nations, who called for the avoidance of violence in Hong Kong and affirmed the importance of a 1984 Sino-British agreement that gave the city its semiautonomous status. The former British colony was returned to China in 1997.

"We expressed, collectively, deep concern about what is happening in Hong Kong," British Prime Minister Boris Johnson said after the G-7 meeting in France. He added that "we remain collectively committed to the 'one country, two systems' framework."

Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said in Beijing that no foreign government has the right to intervene in Hong Kong, which he called an internal Chinese issue. "We urge the members of the G-7 countries not to meddle in other's affairs," he said.

3 European nations condemn North Korea's missile launches

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—Three important U.S. allies on Tuesday condemned the "repeated provocative launches" of ballistic missiles by North Korea, saying they violate U.N. Security Council resolutions banning any such activity.

The United Kingdom, France and Germany issued a joint statement after a closed council briefing by U.N. political chief Rosemary DiCarlo that they requested because of serious concerns at the series of missile launches in recent weeks by North Korea.

The three European council members urged North Korea "to engage in meaningful negotiations with the U.S.," as President Donald Trump and its leader Kim Jong Un agreed to on June 30 at their meeting in the Demilitarized Zone between the two Koreas.

"Serious efforts by North Korea to re-engage diplomatically and make progress on denuclearization are the only way to guarantee security and stability on the Korean peninsula and in the region," their statement said.

The three countries stressed that "international sanctions must remain in place and be fully and strictly enforced until North Korea's nuclear and ballistic missile programs are dismantled."

Many diplomats and analysts credit 11 rounds of increasingly tougher U.N. sanctions, which have sharply cut North Korea's exports and imports, with helping promote the thaw in relations between North Korea and South Korea, and the two summits between Trump and Kim.

But negotiations between the U.S. and North Korea have been at a standstill since the second Trump-Kim summit in Hanoi in February broke down over what the United States described as excessive North Korean demands for sanctions relief in exchange for only a partial surrender of its nuclear capabilities.

The statement by the U.S. allies was not joined by the United States or other members of the 15-nation Security Council—and it was at odds with U.S. President Donald Trump's comments downplaying the recent launches.

In Saturday's latest launch, North Korea said Sunday that Kim Jong Un supervised the test-firing of a "newly developed super-large multiple rocket launcher." It appeared to be another demonstration of the North's expanding weapons arsenal apparently aimed at increasing its leverage ahead of a possible resumption of nuclear talks with the United States.

Trump responded to the launch saying, "Kim Jong Un has been, you know, pretty straight with me. ... He likes testing missiles but we never restricted short-range missiles. We'll see what happens."

Most of the North Korean weapons tested in recent weeks have shown short-range flight distances. This suggests that North Korea still doesn't intend to lift its self-imposed moratorium on nuclear and long-range missile tests, which would certainly derail negotiations with Washington.

Britain, France and Germany said "it is vital that the Security Council shows unity in upholding its resolutions," which have imposed increasingly tougher sanctions on North Korea in an effort to rein in its nuclear and ballistic missile programs.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Ferry fire kills 3 in southern PH; 245 rescued

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—At least three people were killed and 245 others were rescued after a fire engulfed a ferry in the southern Philippines overnight, the coast guard said Wednesday. Search and rescue efforts were continuing after the fire on the M/V *Lite Ferry 16* off Dapitan city in Zamboanga del Norte province, coast guard spokesman Armand Balilo said. "We did not have any patrol ship in the area so we alerted nearby ships and boats to render assistance because it was an emergency," Balilo said by phone. "It's good that a number of ships immediately responded. We have to recognize what they did." It was not immediately clear how many people were actually on board, a common dilemma when such sea accidents happen. The coast guard said a manifest showed the 645-ton ferry was carrying 136 passengers, including 28 children, and 36 crew members. But it was unclear why 245 were rescued, much more than the combined number of passengers and crew, Balilo said, adding that investigators would ask the owner and ferry skipper to explain the discrepancy. A 1-year-old girl and a 60-year-old male passenger died while at least 102 others were rescued by passing ships and boats, Balilo said. He said a third person died, but did not have any details.

Students rally in Pakistan-held Kashmir against India

MUZAFFARABAD, Pakistan (AP)—More than a thousand students rallied Tuesday in the capital of Pakistan-held Kashmir to denounce India's downgrading of the special status of the portion of the disputed region it controls. The demonstrators chanted "We want freedom" and denounced human rights violations in Indian-administrated Kashmir. Kashmir, which is split between two countries and claimed by both, has been the cause of two of wars between Pakistan and India since they won independence from British colonialists in 1947. The rally in Muzaffarabad came a day after Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan vowed to globally highlight the issue of Kashmir. He will address the U.N. General Assembly on Sept. 27 to highlight what he calls "Indian atrocities" in Kashmir. Meanwhile, Pakistan's military accused Indian troops of firing across the Line of Control in the Kashmir region Tuesday, killing two civilians and wounding three others. In a statement, it said the dead included a 45-year-old man and a 3-year-old girl. The Indian fire also burnt three homes in the village of Nekrun near the frontier on Pakistani side of Kashmir, it said.

Australia cracks down on foreign interference at university

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—Australia has formed a task force to crack down on attempts by foreign governments to meddle in Australian universities. The move comes as concerns grow over Chinese influence at Australia's universities, where Chinese students are by far the largest group of foreign students. Pro-Beijing student demonstrators have recently clashed with Hong Kong democracy advocates on Australian campuses. Australia has also raised concerns about the influence of Beijing-funded Confucius Institutes at Australian universities. Education Minister Dan Tehan announced the task force's launch Wednesday. Last year, the government angered China by banning covert foreign interference in Australian politics. Foreign political donations have also been banned.

World

Respiratory ailments hit in Amazon as Brazil spurns G-7 aid

PORTO VELHO, Brazil (AP)—Acrimony between Brazil and European countries seeking to help fight Amazon fires deepened on Tuesday, jeopardizing hopes of global unity over how to protect a region seen as vital to the health of the planet.

A personal spat between the leaders of Brazil and France seemed to dominate the dispute, but it also centered on Brazilian perceptions of alleged interference by Europe on matters of sovereignty, economic development and the rights of indigenous people. Brazil said it will set conditions for accepting any aid from the Group of Seven nations, which offered tens of millions of dollars for firefighting and rainforest protections.

The Amazon's rainforests are a major absorber of carbon dioxide, considered a critical defense against rising temperatures and other disruptions caused by climate change. While many of the recorded fires this year were set in already deforested areas by people clearing land for cultivation or pasture, Brazilian government figures indicate that they are much more widespread this year, suggesting the threat to the vast ecosystem is intensifying.

The effect of the fires was evident in the Amazonian city of Porto Velho, where smoke drifted over the sky for parts of the day. Elane Diaz, a nurse in the city, spoke about respiratory problems while waiting for a doctor's appointment at a hospital with her 5-year-old-son Eduardo.

AP

A volunteer stands on land scorched by wildfires in the Chiquitania Forest near Robore, Bolivia, Tuesday, Aug. 27, 2019.

"The kids are affected the most. They're coughing a lot," Diaz said. "They have problems breathing. I'm concerned because it affects their health."

Still, Diaz and some other residents in Porto Velho, the capital of Rondonia state, were supportive of Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro, saying he was doing what he could to protect the Amazon and that international criticism was unfounded.

"Germany had already been helping through NGOs and they couldn't prevent this," said Mona Lisa Pereira, an agronomist. "It seems like this is the fire of a lifetime. But it's not. We have fires every year."

Bolsonaro, who took office this year with a promise to boost development in Latin America's biggest economy, has questioned whether offers of international aid mask a plot to exploit the Amazon's resources and weaken Brazilian growth. On Tuesday, he said French President Emmanuel Macron had called him a liar and that he would have to apologize before Brazil considers accepting rainforest aid.

Macron has to retract those comments "and then we can speak," Bolsonaro said.

In a video message, Brazilian novelist Paulo Coelho offered an apology to France for what he called Bolsonaro's "hysteria," saying the Brazilian government had resorted to insults to dodge responsibility for the Amazon fires.

Bolsonaro met governors of states in the Amazon region, some of whom criticized laws that protect the environment and the rights of indigenous people that they said limited opportunities for economic development.

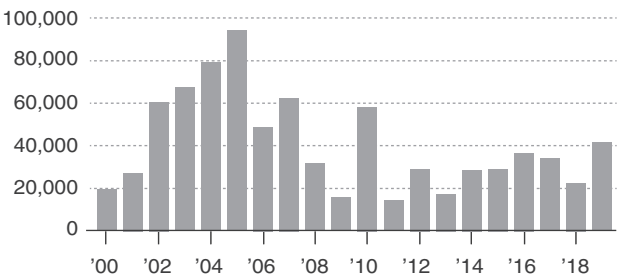
Marcos Jose Rocha dos Santos, the governor of Rondonia state, questioned the intentions of international aid.

"International resources are welcome as long as who uses those resources is us," Rocha dos Santos said. "We will determine where the money will be applied, it's useless if those resources get here and go to international NGOs."

At a summit in France on Monday, the G-7 nations pledged $20 million to help fight the flames in the Amazon and protect the rainforest, in addition to a separate $12 million from Britain and $11 million from Canada.

Amazon fires (Jan. through Aug.)

As bad as they are, this year's fires are not off the charts. Between January and August, scientists have counted more than 40,000 blazes in the Amazon region; in 2010, during a severe drought, they spotted 60,000 blazes over the same period of time.



Source: The National Institute for Space Research
Graphic: Staff, Los Angeles Times, TNS

Israel's shadow war with Iran bursts into the open

JERUSALEM (AP)—The long shadow war between Israel and Iran has burst into the open in recent days, with Israel allegedly striking Iran-linked targets as far away as Iraq and crash-landing two drones in Hezbollah-dominated southern Beirut.

These incidents, along with an air raid in Syria that Israel says thwarted an imminent Iranian drone attack, have raised tensions at a particularly fraught time.

Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is looking to project strength three weeks before national elections, while Iran has taken a series of provocative actions in recent months aimed at pressuring European nations to provide relief from crippling U.S. sanctions.

Hassan Nasrallah, leader of the Iran-backed Hezbollah, vowed to retaliate after a drone crashed on the militant group's Beirut media office and another exploded midair early Sunday. Israeli forces along the border with Lebanon are on high alert, raising fears of a repeat of the 2006 war. Netanyahu has warned Nasrallah to "relax," saying Israel "knows how to defend itself and how to pay back its enemies."

The Israeli leader has also addressed Gen. Qassem Soleimani, head of Iran's elite Quds Force and the architect of its regional entrenchment, telling him to "be careful with your words and be even more careful with your actions." Israel said Soleimani masterminded the alleged drone attack. Another commander in Iran's Revolutionary Guard, Gen. Mohsen Rezaei, dismissed the Israeli allegations as a "lie."

Israel has also blamed Iran for recent rocket fire from the Gaza Strip, and on Monday struck a Palestinian base in Lebanon near the Syrian border.

Israel views Iran as its greatest threat, and has hailed President Donald Trump's decision to withdraw from the 2015 nuclear deal and re-impose sanctions. But Netanyahu may fear the U.S. is moderating that approach after Trump said there's a "really good chance" he could meet with Iran's president.

The two close allies already appear to be at odds over recent strikes on Iran-linked militias in Iraq. In a rare move, U.S. officials acknowledged that Israel was behind at least one of the strikes, and the Pentagon pointedly distanced itself from the Iraq strikes, saying U.S. forces were not involved.

None of the parties is believed to be seeking war, but the potential for miscalculation could lead to a regional conflagration.

UN says 40 migrants feared drowned in capsizing off Libya

CAIRO (AP)—A boat carrying dozens of migrants bound for Europe capsized Tuesday in the Mediterranean Sea off Libya, with at least 40 people missing and presumed drowned, U.N. officials said, as a support group reported it had gotten a call from someone on the vessel "crying and shouting" that passengers had died already.

At least 65 migrants, mostly from Sudan, were rescued, said Ayoub Gassim, a spokesman for Libya's coast guard, with a search halted for those still missing. The coast guard gave a lower estimate for those missing and feared drowned, saying it was 15 to 20 people.

Gassim told The Associated Press that five people were confirmed dead, including a woman and a child from Morocco whose bodies were recovered near the western town of Khoms, around 120 kilometers (75 miles) east of Tripoli. The other dead were men from Morocco, Sudan and Somalia.

Tuesday's shipwreck was the latest maritime disaster involving migrants seeking a better life in Europe. One month ago, up to 150 Europe-bound migrants, including women and children, were missing and feared drowned when two boats carrying about 300 people capsized off Libya. In January, 17 died or were missing off Libya and in May, about 65 drowned when their boat sank off Tunisia.

"If today's tragic numbers are confirmed, the number of people drowned in the Mediterranean in 2019 will have reached close to 900," said Charlie Yaxley, a spokesman for the U.N. refugee agency, who gave the estimate of at least 40 dead or missing, among them women and children, based on eyewitness accounts of the survivors.

The U.N.'s migration agency said a total of 859 migrants have died in the Mediterranean as of Aug. 22. It said 45,505 people have arrived in Europe by sea so far this year, which represents a 30 percent drop from 2018.

Alarm Phone, an independent support group for people crossing the Mediterranean, said about 100 were aboard the capsized vessel. The group said it received a call from migrants on the boat, who "were in severe distress, crying and shouting, telling us that people had died already."

Libya's coast guard says it has intercepted hundreds of migrants at sea so far in August.

The country became a major crossing point for migrants to Europe after the overthrow and death of longtime dictator Moammar Gadhafi in 2011, when the North African nation was thrown into chaos, armed militias proliferated and central authority collapsed.

Environment

HELHEIM GLACIER, Greenland (AP)—This is where Earth's refrigerator door is left open, where glaciers dwindle and seas begin to rise.

New York University air and ocean scientist David Holland, who is tracking what's happening in Greenland from both above and below, calls it "the end of the planet." He is referring to geography more than the future. Yet in many ways this place is where the planet's warmer and watery future is being written.

It is so warm here, just inside the Arctic Circle, that on an August day, coats are left on the ground and Holland and colleagues work on the watery melting ice without gloves. In one of the closest towns, Kulusuk, the morning temperature reached a shirtsleeve 52 degrees Fahrenheit (10.7 degrees Celsius).

The ice Holland is standing on is thousands of years old. It will be gone within a year or two, adding yet more water to rising seas worldwide.

Summer this year is hitting Greenland hard with record-shattering heat and extreme melt. By the end of the summer, about 440 billion tons (400 billion metric tons) of ice—maybe more—will have melted or calved off Greenland's giant ice sheet, scientists estimate. That's enough water to flood Pennsylvania or the country of Greece about a foot (35 centimeters) deep.

In just the five days from July 31 to Aug. 3, more than 58 billion tons (53 billion metric tons) melted from the surface. That's over 40 billion tons more than the average for this time of year. And that 58 billion tons doesn't even count the huge calving events or the warm water eating away at the glaciers from below, which may be a huge factor.

And one of the places hit hardest this hot Greenland summer is here on the southeastern edge of the giant frozen island: Helheim, one of Greenland's fastest-retreating glaciers, has shrunk about 6 miles (10 kilometers) since scientists came here in 2005.

Several scientists, such as NASA oceanographer Josh Willis, who is also in Greenland, studying melting ice from above, said what's happening is a combination of man-made climate change and natural but weird weather patterns. Glaciers here do shrink in the summer and grow in the winter, but nothing like this year.

Summit Station, a research camp nearly 2 miles high (3,200 meters) and far north, warmed to above freezing twice this year for a record total of 16.5 hours. Before this year, that station was above zero for only 6.5 hours in 2012, once in 1889 and also in the Middle Ages.

This year is coming near but not quite passing the extreme summer of 2012—Greenland's worst year in modern history for melting, scientists report.

"If you look at climate model projections, we can expect to see larger areas of the ice sheet experiencing melt for longer durations of the year and greater mass loss going forward," said University of Georgia ice scientist Tom Mote. "There's every reason to believe that years that look like this will become more common."

A NASA satellite found that Greenland's ice sheet lost about 255 billion metric tons of ice a year between 2003 and 2016, with the loss rate generally getting worse over that period. Nearly all of the 28 Greenland glaciers that Danish climate scientist Ruth Mottram measured are retreating, especially Helheim.

At Helheim, the ice, snow and water seem to go on and on, sandwiched by bare dirt mountains that now show no signs of ice but get covered in the winter. The only thing that gives a sense of scale is the helicopter carrying Holland and his team. It's dwarfed by the landscape, an almost imperceptible red speck against the ice cliffs where Helheim stops and its remnants begin.

Those ice cliffs are somewhere between 225 feet (70 meters) and 328 feet (100 meters) high. Just next to them are Helheim's remnants—sea ice, snow and icebergs—forming a mostly white expanse, with a mishmash of shapes and textures. Frequently water pools amid that white, glimmering a near-fluorescent blue that resembles windshield wiper fluid or Kool-Aid.

As pilot Martin Norregaard tries to land his helicopter on the broken-up part of what used to be glacier—a mush called a melange—he looks for ice specked with dirt, a sign that it's firm enough for the chopper to set down on. Pure white ice could conceal a deep crevasse that leads to a cold and deadly plunge.

Holland and team climb out to install radar and GPS to track the ice movement and help explain why salty, warm, once-tropical water attacking the glacier's "underbelly" has been bubbling to the surface

"It takes a really long time to grow an ice sheet, thousands and thousands of years, but they can be broken up or destroyed quite rapidly," Holland said.

Holland, like NASA's Willis, suspects that warm, salty water that comes in part from the Gulf Stream in North America is playing a bigger role than previously thought in melting Greenland's ice. And if that's the case, that's probably bad news for the planet, because it means faster and more melting and higher sea level rise. Willis said that by the year 2100, Greenland alone could cause 3 or 4 feet (more than 1 meter) of sea level rise.

So it's crucial to know how much of a role the air above and the water below play.

"What we want for this is an ice sheet forecast," Holland said.

In this remote landscape, sound travels easily for miles. Every several minutes there's a faint rumbling that sounds like thunder, but it's not. It's ice cracking.

In tiny Kulusuk, about a 40-minute helicopter ride away, Mugu Utuaq says the winter that used to last as much as 10 months when he was a boy can now be as short as five months. That matters to him because as the fourth-ranked dogsledder in Greenland, he has 23 dogs and needs to race them.

They can't race in the summer, but they still have to eat. So Utuaq and friends go whale hunting with rifles in small boats. If they succeed, which this day they didn't, the dogs can eat whale.

"People are getting rid of their dogs because there's no season," said Yewlin, who goes by one name. He used to run a sled dog team for tourists at a hotel in neighboring Tasiilaq, but they no longer can do that.

Yes, the melting glaciers, less ice and warmer weather are noticeable and much different from his childhood, said Kulusuk Mayor Justus Paulsen, 58. Sure, it means more fuel is needed for boats to get around, but that's OK, he said.

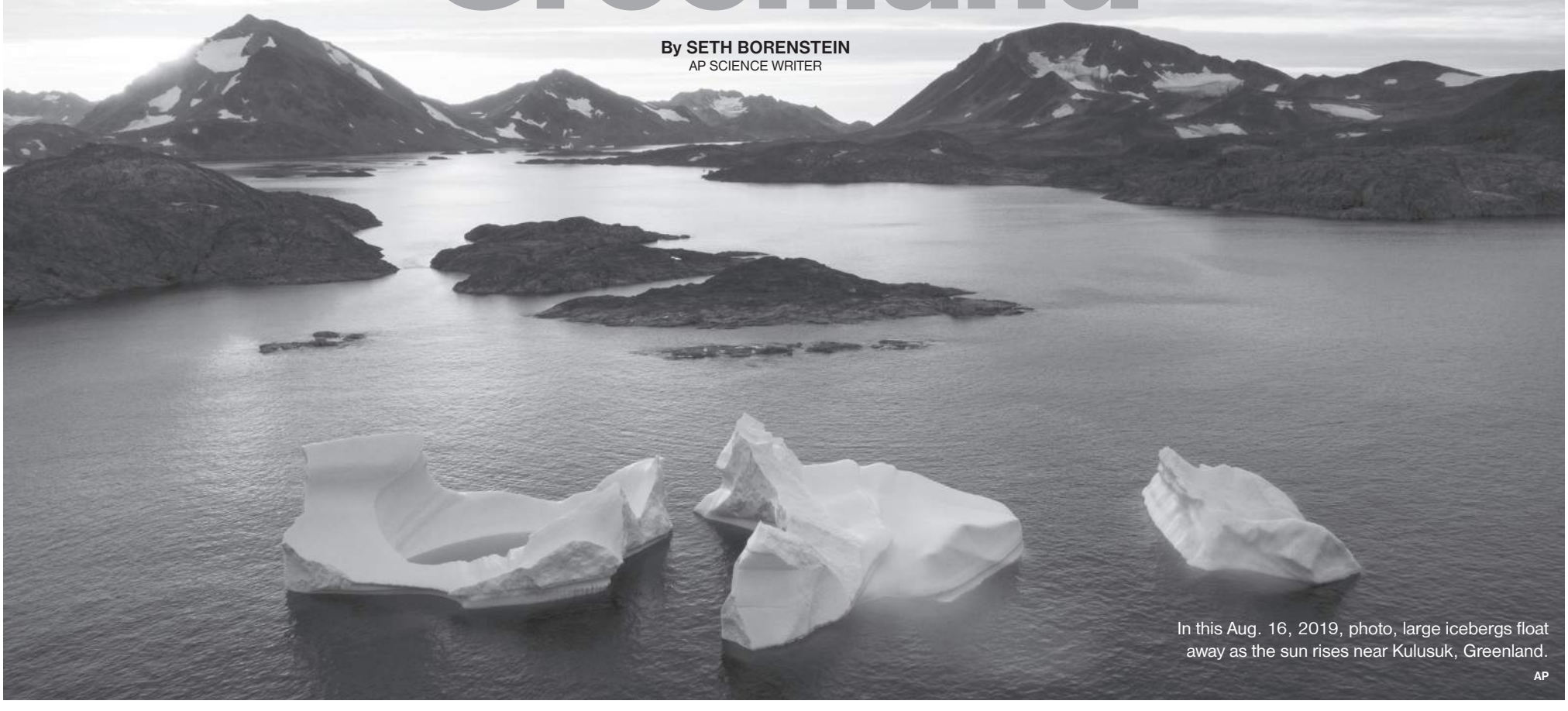
"We like it because we like to have a summer," Paulsen said.

But Holland looks out at Helheim glacier from his base camp and sees the bigger picture. And it's not good, he said. Not for here. Not for Earth as a whole.

"It's kind of nice to have a planet with glaciers around," Holland said.

Earth's future is being written in fast-melting Greenland

By SETH BORENSTEIN
AP SCIENCE WRITER



In this Aug. 16, 2019, photo, large icebergs float away as the sun rises near Kulusuk, Greenland.

AP

Life & Style

Leslie Jones exiting 'SNL,' Kate McKinnon back next season

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"Saturday Night Live" cast member Leslie Jones is leaving the NBC show after five seasons, while Kate McKinnon is sticking around.

Jones' departure was confirmed by a person familiar with the change who spoke Tuesday on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to publicly discuss Jones' status with the long-running sketch series.

The exit comes as Jones is branching out into other projects.

McKinnon will return for her eighth season with the show, the person said. McKinnon's portrayals of political figures including Hillary Clinton and Jeff Sessions have become a "SNL" staple.

Whether departures or additions, cast changes have become a part of the comic institution's ritual as it gets ready for another season, this time around No. 45 starting Sept. 28.

Earlier this month, Jones announced she's doing a Netflix stand-up special. In an appearance on Jimmy Kimmel's late-night show, the "Ghostbusters" star said it's great to be an actress but that she's really a "hardcore" stand-up comedian.

She hasn't abandoned acting: Jones is part of the voice cast of the recently released "The Angry Birds Movie 2" and reportedly has been in discussions to join Eddie Murphy's announced "Coming to America" movie sequel. Murphy is scheduled to host "SNL" later this year, his first time back on the show in 35 years .

Her tenure on "SNL" was marked by an exuberant style and portrayal of celebrities including Whoopi Goldberg, whom Jones has called an inspiration.

AP

This March 3, 2018 photo released by NBC shows Leslie Jones, center, flanked by Ice Hockey Olympian Hilary Knight, left, and Colin Jost during the "Weekend Update" segment on "Saturday Night Live," in New York.

Margaret Atwood among 2019 Center for Fiction honorees

NEW YORK (AP)—Literary agent Lynn Nesbit and Margaret Atwood and some of the forces behind the Hulu adaptation of her novel "The Handmaid's Tale" will be this year's honorees at the Center for Fiction's benefit and awards dinner.

The Center announced Tuesday that Nesbit would receive the Maxwell E. Perkins Award, given to an editor, publisher, or agent who has discovered, nurtured and championed fiction writers. Nesbit's clients have included Jeffrey Eugenides, Anne Rice and Tom Wolfe. Atwood, Hulu executive Craig Erwich and Bruce Miller, creator and showrunner of the Hulu "Handmaid's Tale" series will be presented the center's first ever On Screen Award for an adaptation that reflects the "complexity and vision of great novels."

The ceremony will be held Dec. 10 in New York.

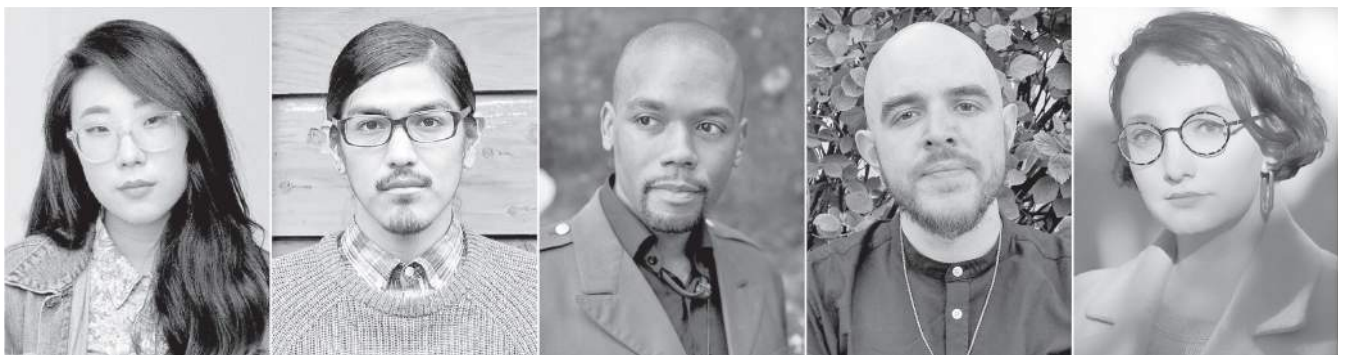
5 young poets each receive awards of $25,000

NEW YORK (AP)—Five young poets, including a National Book Award winner, have each received prizes worth just over $25,000.

Poetry Foundation and Poetry magazine announced Tuesday that the Lilly Rosenberg Fellowships were given to Franny Choi, Jane Huffman, Jose Olivarez, Justin Phillip Reed and Michael Wasson. The 30-year-old program gives money to poets age 21 to 31. The awards are intended to provide time for writing and reading poetry.

This year's winners range from the New York-based son of Mexican immigrants (Olivarez) to a Nimiipuu from the Nez Perce Reservation in Idaho (Wasson). Reed is a National Book Award winner for his collection "Indecency," and Huffman edits the literary journal Guesthouse. Choi teaches poetry through the education program Project VOICE.

Previous fellows include Katherine Larson, Roger Reeves and Christian Wiman.



AP

This combination of photos released by The Poetry Foundation shows, from left, Franny Choi, Michael Wasson, Justin Phillip Reed, Jose Olivarez and Jane Huffman who are the recipients of the Ruth Lilly and Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Poetry Fellowship.

TV viewership down, social media up for VMAs

NEW YORK (AP)—If Taylor Swift, Missy Elliot and a 1990s rap reunion couldn't halt the shrinkage of MTV's television audience for its Video Music Awards, perhaps nothing can.

The show was seen by 4.9 million viewers live on Monday across 12 different Viacom-owned networks, the Nielsen company said. That's down from last year's audience of 5.2 million, as the annual event has slid in television viewers each year since reaching 10.3 million in 2014.

MTV considers that more a reflection of changing media habits among young people than declining interest in its marquee show. The amount of young people watching cable television in general is rapidly shrinking, and social media measurements for the show are up, reflecting the different ways MTV's audience consumes the programming.

For example, MTV aggressively pushes out clips of the show on social media platforms, and said those views were up 85 percent over last year and were the highest of any VMAs. In the weeks leading up the show, social media engagements—liking, sharing or commenting upon announcements about the event—more than doubled over last year. No TV program this summer triggered more social media activity, the network said.

Swift, music's biggest star, opened the VMA's with two songs off her just-released album, and the versatile Elliott collected the Video Vanguard Award for her innovative videos. The show, which aired from Newark, N.J., closed with an all-star performance of artists with New Jersey roots, including Queen Latifah, Redman, Wyclef Jean, Naughty by Nature and Fetty Wap.

Mom walks fine line amid safety and fear for daughter

DEAR ABBY: I have two beautiful daughters, ages 3 and 4. My concern is that my younger daughter is very friendly. No matter where we go, she says "hi" to everyone she sees, strangers included. With all her positive energy, she has the type of personality that attracts attention when she walks into a room. I love her for that, but I'm also worried she's too friendly.

Some of our neighbors are male, and she wants to hug them and sit on their laps. This alarms me, and I'm not sure what to do. With how things are nowadays, you never know who you can trust. I don't want to dampen her confident and upbeat disposition, but I want to teach her why it's not OK to do this. Sometimes I wonder if she does it because her father isn't in the picture, so when she sees an older man, she wants that bond. Please help, Abby.

PROTECTIVE IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR PROTECTIVE: Your daughter appears to be a lovely little girl. I agree you shouldn't dampen her outgoing and affectionate nature. She should not be walking around by herself without supervision. Explain to her what appropriate behavior is and is not. This is an ongoing conversation that includes more information as she is able to understand it. Ultimately, you are her parent, and you must determine what is appropriate in her interactions with ALL people, regardless of gender.

DEAR ABBY: How do I deal with a friend who constantly stays on her cellphone (texting, talking or using video chat) every time we get together? She puts her phone on video chat in the car and talks to some guy (Note: She's already in a relationship.), and in restaurants she keeps her phone on the table and it rings, which is annoying. She also talks on the phone in public places, making others around glance over at her, yet she doesn't turn it off.

She spent the last 40 minutes of a recent 1 1/2-hour bus trip we took, seated next to each other, on her phone. There was a sign nearby that read, "Cellphone use unless in an emergency situation is prohibited," and the passenger in front of us kept turning around to glare at her. She was oblivious! I once told her I don't talk on my phone if I'm with someone. She asked me how I did that and when I shut my phone off, she commented, "I can't do that"! What do I do, Abby?

OFFENDED IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR OFFENDED: Your friend appears to be not only inconsiderate of you and others around her, but also addicted to her cellphone. Allow me to share what I would do: I would spend my time with friends who choose to be fully present when in my company.

DEAR ABBY: How long should a new wife wait to be introduced to her husband's adult child because the adult child doesn't know what to say to his young children about who I am?

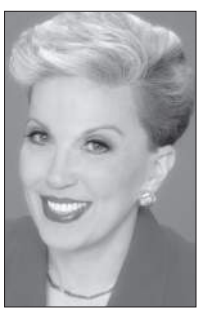
WAITING IN THE WEST

DEAR WAITING: You should have been introduced to your husband's family long before you became the new wife, which would have been far easier for all concerned. What the young children should be told is: "I have wonderful news! 'Pop-pop' got married to a very nice lady. He was so sad when he was by himself, and now he isn't alone anymore. Isn't that great?" The news should be delivered with a big smile and maybe even ice cream to celebrate.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

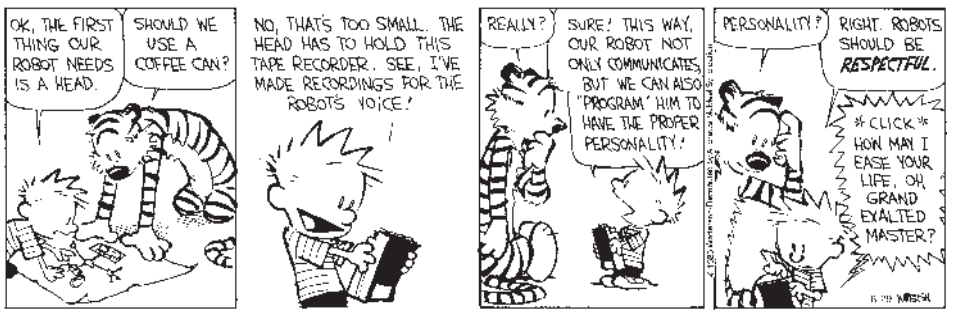


Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

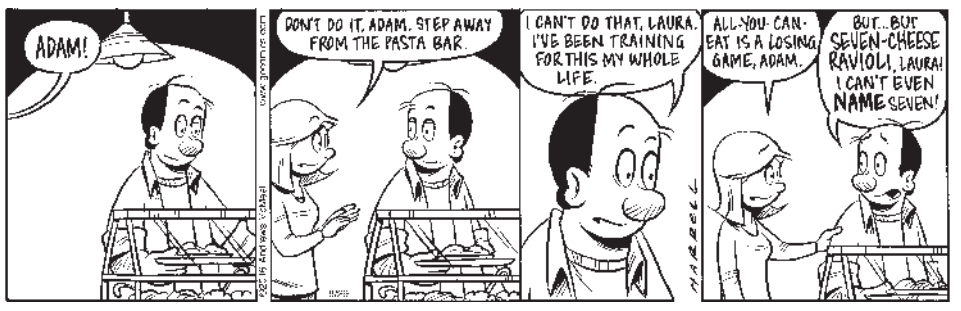

OK, THE FIRST THING OUR ROBOT NEEDS IS A HEAD.
SHOULD WE USE A COFFEE CAN?
NO, THAT'S TOO SMALL. THE HEAD HAS TO HOLD THIS TAPE RECORDER. SEE, I'VE MADE RECORDINGS FOR THE ROBOT'S VOICE!
REALLY?
SURE! THIS WAY, OUR ROBOT NOT ONLY COMMUNICATES, BUT WE CAN ALSO 'PROGRAM' HIM TO HAVE THE PROPER PERSONALITY!
PERSONALITY?
RIGHT. ROBOTS SHOULD BE RESPECTFUL.
CLICK HOW MAY I EASE YOUR LIFE, OH, GRAND EXALTED MASTER?

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


ADAM!
DON'T DO IT, ADAM. STEP AWAY FROM THE PASTA BAR.
I CAN'T DO THAT, LAURA. I'VE BEEN TRAINING FOR THIS MY WHOLE LIFE.
ALL YOU CAN EAT IS A LOSING GAME, ADAM.
BUT...BUT SEVEN-CHEESE RAVIOLI, LAURA! I CAN'T EVEN NAME SEVEN!

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 — Romeo
5 Biblical boat
8 Japanese noodle
12 Bell sound
13 Bee follower
14 Actress Hatcher
15 Release money
16 PC program
17 Cameo shape
18 Crafty
20 Drink to excess
22 "Gosh!"
23 Actress Long
24 Cast a ballot
27 Sweet variety of wine
32 Before
33 "This — stickup!"
34 Punk-rock subgenre
35 Put on the air
38 Radar image
39 Actress Longoria
40 Greek X
42 Spinach-eating sailor
45 Montana's capital
49 On — with
50 Shock partner
52 Actor Neeson
53 Tennis barriers
54 Seminary subj.
55 Aware of
56 Canyon sound
57 "Frontline" airer
58 Calendar row

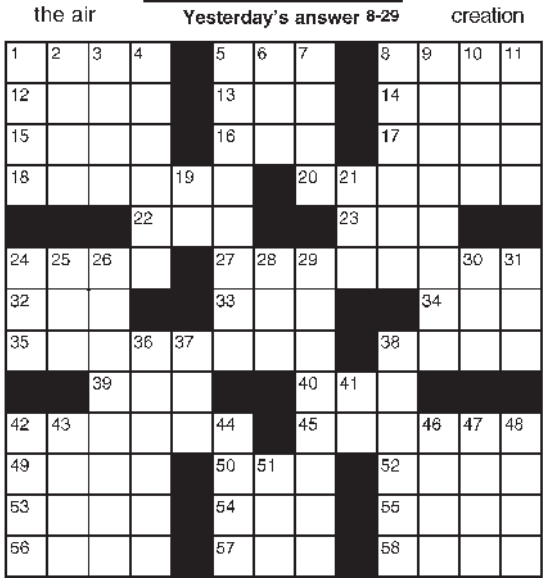
DOWN

1 LAPD alerts
2 Wife of Jacob
3 Equitable
4 Claim
5 College life
6 Gym unit
7 Retained
8 Perfect place
9 "Slumdog Millionaire" actor
10 Spoken
11 Cleopatra's river
19 You and I
21 Business mag
24 Dog doc
25 Mine yield
26 Mind reader
28 Naval letters
29 Messenger bags
30 Brit. record label
31 Prune
36 Extremely
37 Low isle
38 Swell, as a cloud
41 That guy
42 Glazier's sheet
43 Oil cartel
44 Lawman Wyatt
46 Aachen article
47 Cager Archibald
48 Out of control
51 Charlotte's creation

Solution time: 24 mins.

G	A	R	R	■	B	M	W	■	C	O	E	D
A	R	■	A	■	A	A	A	■	B	U	I	I
L	E	-	I	B	A	N	K	■	E	I	I	A
S	A	T	I	E	■	■	E	A	R	F	U	L
■	■	■	F	E	T	A	■	I	S	L	■	■
C	O	P	Y	■	U	S	E	R	■	A	T	M
I	I	U	■	F	N	T	R	F	■	N	A	F
F	I	I	■	P	E	R	I	■	S	K	I	D
■	■	L	E	I	■	C	N	I	T	■	■	■
H	O	R	A	C	E	■	■	S	A	G	A	S
A	N	A	S	■	T	I	S	H	T	A	N	K
D	U	N	C	■	T	R	I	■	C	L	O	I
A	S	K	S	■	S	E	X	■	D	E	N	T

Yesterday's answer 8-29



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Lauren Collins, 33; Lea Michele, 33; Carla Gugino, 48; Rebecca De Mornay, 60.

Happy Birthday: Fix what's not working properly. Make decisions that will improve your relationships and bring you peace of mind. Personal improvements will pay off, and checking out different lifestyles will help you distance yourself from people and places that are holding you back or causing stress. A promise or commitment you make to yourself or someone else is favored. Your numbers are 5, 13, 21, 29, 38, 43, 45.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Stay focused on what's doable, and stop worrying about the things you cannot change or redo. Learn from the experience, and turn any negative you face into something positive. An offer looks too good to turn down for personal reasons. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Set your sights high, and reach for the stars. Don't worry about what others do, say or want. Make changes that favor you. Dig in and turn your dream into a reality. Celebrate with someone you love. Romance is in the stars. ✪✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Easy does it. Don't let someone influence you who is looking out for his or her interests. Make decisions based on what you need to achieve, personal satisfaction and happiness. Don't bend because someone overreacts. ✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Control the outcome of a situation you face. Make changes before someone asks you to or takes the initiative and beats you to the finish line. Personal improvements are possible, but stay within your budget. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Expand your interests, do something creative and take better care of your money and health. Lending or borrowing will have stipulations attached that could pose a problem for you in the future. Avoid joint ventures and excessive behavior. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Look at your options, consider what you'll have to do to get to your destination and start moving in that direction. A partnership looks promising, but before you move forward, find out what you'll have to do. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* If you want something, check out what you already have and how best to adapt it to fulfill your current needs. Reusing and recycling will give you a sense of accomplishment and help you moderate your lifestyle to fit your budget. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Take the plunge. You've got enough knowledge and skill to excel. Have faith in your talent to help you reach whatever destination you set your sights on. Dream it, believe it and make it happen. Choose your future. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Listen and observe. Develop your ideas and plans before you share too much information with others. Once you feel you've taken care of every detail, you can put your ideas into play. Simplicity and moderation should be your mantra. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Buy, sell, invest. It's how you play the game of life that will determine the outcome. Make decisions that will change your life, bring you joy and improve your relationships, health and financial security. It's time to make things happen. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Know what you want before you sit down with someone who can influence the outcome. Having a clear-cut plan in place will help you realize what you need to do, what you require from others and how to proceed. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Your timing is right, so don't blow an opportunity because you lack moderation or you let an outside influence take over or interfere with your plans. Invest in yourself, your ability and what you want to see happen. Romance is encouraged. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are conscientious, helpful and discreet. You are generous and secretive.

Visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	4	6			2	9		
		7		3		4		
				4				
1			4		7			3
	6						8	
4			5		3			9
				1				
		2		9		7		
	7	9				3	6	

Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/29

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

4	7	8	1	5	9	2	6	3
6	5	1	8	2	3	9	7	4
9	2	3	6	4	7	1	5	8
8	9	7	4	6	5	3	1	2
2	4	6	3	9	1	5	8	7
3	1	5	2	7	8	6	4	9
7	3	9	5	8	6	4	2	1
5	8	4	9	1	2	7	3	6
1	6	2	7	3	4	8	9	5

Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/29

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

ADDING A LITTLE SALT **Solution: 5 letters**

C	H	G	N	I	N	I	R	B	E	A	N	S	I	S
D	E	X	I	M	I	N	E	R	A	L	S	E	O	E
R	E	H	S	O	K	S	E	N	I	M	L	D	D	A
C	O	A	R	S	E	K	C	O	R	B	I	I	I	S
O	L	O	O	P	I	Z	Z	A	A	U	S	S	Z	O
O	S	G	G	E	T	S	A	T	M	S	A	H	E	N
K	R	L	A	T	S	Y	R	C	O	L	C	E	D	I
I	E	R	D	I	E	T	H	L	A	D	U	S	T	N
N	C	E	O	H	I	L	V	D	E	I	C	I	N	G
G	I	N	O	W	O	E	D	L	Y	S	U	G	E	R
T	P	N	F	R	D	S	I	K	P	T	M	N	I	A
L	E	I	I	R	E	K	A	H	S	U	B	I	R	T
E	S	D	N	C	H	L	O	R	I	N	E	L	T	I
M	E	A	T	C	F	R	E	K	C	A	R	C	U	N
E	T	I	L	A	H	I	M	A	L	A	Y	A	N	G

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Adds, Beans, Brining, Chloride, Chlorine, Cling, Coarse, Cooking, Cracker, Crystal, Cucumber, De-icing, Deli, Diet, Dinner, Dishes, Dissolved, Eggs, Flaky, Food, Grating, Halite, Himalayan, Iodized, Kosher, Meat, Melt, Minerals, Mines, Mixed, Nutrient, Nuts, Pinch, Pizza, Pool, Recipe, Rock, Salad, Seasoning, Shaker, Sodium, Table, Taste, White

Yesterday's Answer: Academy Awards

The NEW **Volume 56** can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

CLASSIFIED ADS

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

CFPJ Corporation
(18) Maintenance
& Repair Workers, General
$8.33/per hr.

Interested applicants,
pls call 235-2375
email: cfpjcorp.2014@yahoo.com

WHATZIT Solution:
Unhappy without you

DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

CURRY ENTERPRISES, LLC
1 CHEF AND HEAD COOK
starting salary $13.87 to $19.00

Interested applicants,
pls call 233-3372
email: mabang1521@gmail.com

CHARLENE MANGLONA LIZAMA
VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
(3) Commercial Cleaner -
High School Diploma and at least 2 years work experience.
salary $7.30/ per hr.
Interested applicants please call 287-3223
email:vicelizama@yahoo.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(3) Heavy Equipment Operators - $9.05 per hour, plus x 1.5 OT, full time, 40 hours a week, Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Duties may include but not limited to: Operating and/or tending machinery equipped with scoops, shovels or buckets to excavate and load loose materials. These machinery may include excavators, backhoes, compactors and bulldozers. Moving levers, depressing foot pedals, and turning dials to operate power machinery. Setting up or inspecting equipment prior to operation. Observing hand signals, grade stakes or other markings. When operating machines so that work can be performed to specifications. Operates machinery to perform activities such as back filling, excavations, vibrating or breaking rocks or concrete.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate
- Minimum 12 months experience
- Knowledge in operating heavy equipment

All interested applicants can send resume to: info@itscorporation.net or visit our office at P.O. Box 502273 Chalan Lau, Chalan Pale Arnold, Middle Road, Saipan, or contact us at telephone numbers (670) 235-6511 or (670) 285-4805 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday thru Saturday. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's posted Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI Labor website-marianaslabor.net

ITS CORPORATION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) Civil Engineering Technician $14.18 per hour, plus x 1.5 OT, full time, 40 hours a week, Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Duties may include but not limited to: Apply theory and principles of civil engineering in planning, designing and overseeing construction and maintenance of structures and facilities under the direction of the Operating Manager. Calculate dimentions, square footage, profile and component specifications and material quantities using calculator or computer. Read and review blueprints and structural specifications to determine dimensions of structure or system and material requirements. Draft detailed dimentional drawings and design layouts for projects to ensure conformance with specifications. Confer with supervisors.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- Associate Degree in Civil Engineering
- Minimum 24 months experience
- Civil Engineering license or equivalent

All interested applicants can send resume to:info@itscorporation.net Or visit our office P.O. Box 502273 Chalan Lau, Chalan Pale Arnold, Middle Road, Saipan, or contact us at telephone numbers (670) 235-6511 or (670) 285-4805 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday thru Saturday. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's posted Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI Labor website-marianaslabor.net

ITS CORPORATION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

APEX BUILDERS, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(02) SALES PERSON - $8.57 to 8.88 per hour plus 1.5 OT Full time, 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Sell merchandise, such as furniture, motor vehicles and parts, appliances, or apparel to consumers. Greet customers and ascertain what each customer wants or needs. Recommend, select, and help locate or obtain merchandise based on customer needs and desires. Compute sales prices, total purchases, and receive and process cash or credit payment. Prepare merchandise for purchase or rental. Answer questions regarding the store and its merchandise.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate or its equivalence;
- At least 12 months experience
- Must be knowledgeable in operating PC, adding machine, electric typewriter

All interested applicants can submit resume at richel@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –Marianaslabor.net.

APEX BUILDERS, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

APEX BUILDERS, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Three (03) Auto Technicians 7.98 per hour plus 1.5 OT Full time, 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 PM

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Repair automobiles, trucks, buses, and other vehicles. Master mechanics repair virtually any part on the vehicle or specialize in the transmission system. Test drive vehicles and test components and systems, using equipment such as infrared engine analyzers, compression gauges, and computerized diagnostic devices. Test and adjust repaired systems to meet manufacturers' performance specifications. Repair, reline, replace, and adjust brakes. Review work orders and discuss work with supervisors. Confer with customers to obtain descriptions of vehicle problems and to discuss work to be performed and future repair requirements.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate or its equivalence;
- At least 24 months experience.
- Knowledge in using hand, power tools and tester.

All interested applicants can submit resume at richel@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 811 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays.

APEX BUILDERS, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

GPPC, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(15) **Auto Technician** $7.98 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Repair automobiles, trucks, buses, and other vehicles. Master mechanics repair virtually any part on the vehicle or specialize in the transmission system. Test drive vehicles and test components and systems, using equipment such as infrared engine analyzers, compression gauges, and computerized diagnostic devices. Test and adjust repaired systems to meet manufacturers' performance specifications. Repair, reline, replace, and adjust brakes. Review work orders and discuss work with supervisors. Confer with customers to obtain descriptions of vehicle problems and to discuss work to be performed and future repair requirements.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate;
- At least 24 months experience
- Knowledge in using hand and power tools

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

GPPC, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(30) **CARPENTER/LABOR** $9.76 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Help carpenters by performing duties requiring less skill. Duties include using, supplying or holding materials or tools, and cleaning work area and equipment. Clean work areas, machines, or equipment, to maintain a clean and safe job site. Fasten timbers or lumber with glue, screws, pegs, or nails and install hardware. Perform tie spacing layout and measure, mark, drill or cut. Select tools, equipment, or materials from storage and transport items to work site. Drill holes in timbers or lumber.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate;
- At least 12 months experience
- Knowledge in using hand and power tools.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

GPPC, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(4) **CIVIL ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN** 14.18 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Apply theory and principles of civil engineering in planning, designing, and overseeing construction and maintenance of structures and facilities under the direction of engineering staff or physical scientists. Calculate dimensions, square footage, profile and component specifications, and material quantities using calculator or computer. Read and review project blueprints and structural specifications to determine dimensions of structure or system and material requirements. Draft detailed dimensional drawings and design layouts for projects and to ensure conformance to specifications. Confer with supervisor to determine project details such as plan preparation, acceptance testing, and evaluation of field conditions. Analyze proposed site factors and design maps, graphs, tracings, and diagrams to illustrate findings.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- Associate Graduate;
- At least 24 months experience
- Knowledge in practical application of Engineering Science and Technology

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

GPPC, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(02) **Counter Clerks** - $7.31 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time, 40 hours a week, Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Receive orders, generally in person, for repairs, rentals, and services. May describe available options, compute costs, and accept payment. Greet customers and discuss the type, quality, and quantity of merchandise sought for rental. Compute charges for merchandise or services and receive payments. Answer telephones to provide information and receive orders. Provide information about rental items, such as availability, operation, or description Rent items, arrange for provision of services to customers, and accept returns.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Degree;
- At least 06 months experience;
- Must be a computer literate

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

APEX BUILDERS, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Two (02) Maintenance Technicians $8.33 per hour plus 1.5 OT
Full time, 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 PM

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Perform work involving the skills of two or more maintenance or craft occupations to keep machines, mechanical equipment, or the structure of an establishment in repair. Duties may involve pipe fitting; boiler making; insulating; welding; machining; carpentry; repairing electrical or mechanical equipment; installing, aligning, and balancing new equipment; and repairing buildings, floors, or stairs. Inspect, operate, or test machinery or equipment to diagnose machine malfunctions. Dismantle machines, equipment, or devices to access and remove defective parts, using hoists, cranes, hand tools, or power tools. Perform routine maintenance, such as inspecting drives, motors, or belts, checking fluid levels, replacing filters, or doing other preventive maintenance actions. Diagnose mechanical problems and determine how to correct them, checking blueprints, repair manuals, or parts catalogs, as necessary. Repair machines, equipment, or structures, using tools such as hammers, hoists, saws, drills, wrenches, or equipment such as precision measuring instruments or electrical or electronic testing devices

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- o High School Graduate or its equivalence;
- o At least 12months experience.
- o Knowledge in using hand and power tools such as cordless power drills power circular saws and pullers.

All interested applicants can submit resume at richel@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 811 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays.

APEX BUILDERS, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

APEX BUILDERS, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Two (02) Mechanics 7.98 per hour plus 1.5 OT
Full time, 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 PM

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul automotive vehicles. Repair automobiles, trucks, buses, and other vehicles. Master mechanics repair virtually any part on the vehicle or specialize in the transmission system. Test drive vehicles and test components and systems, using equipment such as infrared engine analyzers, compression gauges, and computerized diagnostic devices. Test and adjust repaired systems to meet manufacturers' performance specifications. Repair, reline, replace, and adjust brakes. Review work orders and discuss work with supervisors. Confer with customers to obtain descriptions of vehicle problems and to discuss work to be performed and future repair requirements.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate or its equivalence;
- At least 24 months experience.
- Knowledge in using hand, power tools and tester.

All interested applicants can submit resume at richel@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670) 234-7900 ext. 811 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays.

APEX BUILDERS, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

GPPC, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(02) **Environmental Health and Safety Manager** $10. 65 to 10.65 per hour, plus 1.5 OT, Full time, 40 hours a week, Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Review, evaluate, and analyze work environments and design programs and procedures to control, eliminate, and prevent disease or injury caused by chemical, physical, and biological agents or ergonomic factors. May conduct inspections and enforce adherence to laws and regulations governing the health and safety of individuals. May be employed in the public or private sector. Includes environmental protection officers. Order suspension of activities that pose threats to workers' health or safety. Investigate accidents to identify causes or to determine how such accidents might be prevented in the future. Recommend measures to help protect workers from potentially hazardous work methods, processes, or materials. Inspect or evaluate workplace environments, equipment, or practices to ensure compliance with safety standards and government regulations. Develop or maintain hygiene programs, such as noise surveys, continuous atmosphere monitoring, ventilation surveys, or asbestos management plans.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- Bachelor's Degree;
- At least 24 months experience in safety standards;
- Must possess various safety training certificates.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

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GPPC, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(04) **Interior Designer** - $8.48 to 9.32 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time, 40 hours a week, Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Plan, design, and furnish interiors of residential, commercial, or industrial buildings. Formulate design which is practical, aesthetic, and conducive to intended purposes, such as raising productivity, selling merchandise, or improving life style. May specialize in a particular field, style, or phase of interior design. Design plans to be safe and to be compliant with the American Disabilities Act (ADA). Coordinate with other professionals, such as contractors, architects, engineers, and lumbers, to ensure job success. Inspect construction work on site to ensure its adherence to the design plans. Use computer-aided drafting (CAD) and related software to produce construction documents. Advise client on interior design factors such as space planning, layout and use of furnishings or equipment, and color coordination.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
Bachelor's Degree;
At least 24 months experience;
Must have knowledge of design techniques, tools, and principles involved in the production of precision technical plans, blueprints, drawings, and models

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

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GPPC, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(12) **Mechanics** $7.98 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul automotive vehicles. Repair automobiles, trucks, buses, and other vehicles. Test drive vehicles and test components and systems, using equipment such as infrared engine analyzers, compression gauges, and computerized diagnostic devices. Test and adjust repaired systems to meet manufacturers' performance specifications. Repair, reline, replace, and adjust brakes. Review work orders and discuss work with supervisors. Confer with customers to obtain descriptions of vehicle problems and to discuss work to be performed and future repair requirements.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate;
- At least 24 months experience
- Knowledge in using hand and power tools and testers.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

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GPPC, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(2) **MATERIAL CONTROL MANAGER** $9.02 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Weigh, measure, and check materials, supplies, and equipment for the purpose of keeping relevant records. Duties are primarily clerical by nature. Manage, collect and keep record of samples of products or materials. Document quantity, quality, type, weight, test result data, and value of materials or products to maintain shipping, receiving, and production records and files. Weigh or measure materials, equipment, or products to maintain relevant records, using volume meters, scales, rules, or calipers. Collect or prepare measurement, weight, or identification labels and attach them to products. Examine products or materials, parts, subassemblies, and packaging for damage, defects, or shortages, using specification sheets, gauges, and standards charts. Signal or instruct other workers to weigh, move, or check products

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate;
- At least 12 months experience
- Knowledge of raw materials, production processes, quality control, costs, and other techniques for maximizing the effective manufacture and distribution of goods.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

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GPPC, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(06) **Mechanics** $7.98 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul automotive vehicles. Repair automobiles, trucks, buses, and other vehicles. Test drive vehicles and test components and systems, using equipment such as infrared engine analyzers, compression gauges, and computerized diagnostic devices. Test and adjust repaired systems to meet manufacturers' performance specifications. Repair, reline, replace, and adjust brakes. Review work orders and discuss work with supervisors. Confer with customers to obtain descriptions of vehicle problems and to discuss work to be performed and future repair requirements.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate;
- At least 24 months experience
- Knowledge in using hand and power tools and testers.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –

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GPPC, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(05) SERVICE TECHNICIAN- $10.58 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40hrs.a week, Monday to Friday 7:30am to 4:30pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Help plumbers, pipefitters, steamfitters, or pipelayers by performing duties requiring less skill. Duties include using, supplying or holding materials or tools, and cleaning work area and equipment. Measure, cut, thread and assemble new pipe, placing the assembled pipe in hangers or other supports. Cut or drill holes in walls or floors to accommodate the passage of pipes. Perform rough-ins, repair and replace fixtures and water heaters, and locate, repair, or remove leaking or broken pipes. Assist pipe fitters in the layout, assembly, and installation of piping for air, ammonia, gas, and water systems. Cut pipe and lift up to fitters. Fit or assist in fitting valves, couplings, or assemblies to tanks, pumps, or systems, using hand tools. Requisition tools and equipment, select type and size of the pipe, and collect and transport materials and equipment to work site. Mount brackets and hangers on walls and ceilings to hold pipes, and set sleeves or inserts to provide support for pipes. Excavate and grade ditches, and lay and join pipe for water and sewer service. Disassemble and remove the damaged or worn pipe.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate;
- At least 12 months experience
- Knowledge in using hand and power tools.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

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GPPC, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(02) **STEEL WORKERS** $14.53 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Raise, place, and unite iron or steel girders, columns, and other structural members to form completed structures or structural frameworks. May erect metal storage tanks and assemble prefabricated metal buildings. Read specifications or blueprints to determine the locations, quantities, or sizes of materials required. Connect columns, beams, and girders with bolts, following blueprints and instructions from supervisors. Bolt aligned structural steel members in position for permanent riveting, bolting, or welding into place. Fasten structural steel members to hoist cables, using chains, cables, or rope. Hoist steel beams, girders, or columns into place, using cranes or signaling hoisting equipment operators to lift and position structural steel members.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate;
- At least 12 months experience
- Knowledge in using hand and power tools.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

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GPPC, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(04) **Warehouse worker** - $7.93 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time, 40 hours a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Receive, store, and issue materials, equipment, and other items from stockroom, warehouse, or storage yard. Keep records and compile stock reports. Pack and unpack items to be stocked on shelves in stockrooms, warehouses, or storage yards. Store items in an orderly and accessible manner in warehouses, tool rooms, supply rooms, or other areas. Examine and inspect stock items for wear or defects, reporting any damage to supervisors. Receive and count stock items, and record data manually or using a computer. Mark stock items using identification tags, stamps, electric marking tools, or other labeling equipment.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
High School Graduate;
At least 12 months experience;
Must have knowledge in the inventory of construction materials and tools.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

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Judge, Tanaka power Yankees past Mariners

AP

New York Yankees starting pitcher Masahiro Tanaka throws to a Seattle Mariners batter during the first inning of a baseball game Tuesday, Aug. 27, 2019, in Seattle.

SEATTLE (AP)—Aaron Judge provided the perfect start to a night where Masahiro Tanaka knew he was going to be in the spotlight.

Judge delivered. So did Tanaka.

Judge became the third-fastest player in baseball history to reach 100 home runs, Tanaka threw seven sharp innings and outpitched Yusei Kikuchi in a showdown of Japanese starters, and the New York Yankees beat the Seattle Mariners 7-0 on Tuesday night.

Judge joined elite company on the first pitch he saw from Kikuchi, hitting a two-run homer off the batter's eye in center field in the first inning. Judge reached the 100-homer mark in his 371st game. Only Ryan Howard (325) and Yankees teammate Gary Sanchez (355) got to 100 faster. It was Judge's 17th homer of the season after going deep in all three games at Dodger Stadium last weekend.

"It's just a start, I guess. I don't know. It's quite an accomplishment," Judge said. "Very few guys have gotten a chance to do that. I'm just humbled and honored by that but got to keep moving forward."

The AL East-leading Yankees have rebounded from a tough start to their West Coast swing. After being swept in Oakland, the Yankees took two of three from the Dodgers and won the first two games in Seattle.

"We've been in situations like that before, we've been down before, we've been through some tough stretches but we always bounce back and find a way to keep battling," Judge said.

Athletics 2, Royals 1

In Kansas City, Marcus Semien provided just enough early offense and Mike Fiers and three Oakland relievers combined to shut down the Royals.

Semien scored in the first inning and drove in a run in the second. That was all the offense the A's pitchers needed one day after Oakland had a season-high 19 runs.

Fiers (13-3) scattered eight hits in his 5 1/3 innings, but allowed just Alex Gordon's RBI double in the sixth. He's now won 11 straight decisions, dating to May 7, tying Mark Mulder for the second-longest winning streak in Oakland history.

Orioles 2, Nationals 0

In Washington, Aaron Brooks came up with an unexpected pitching gem against the torrid-hitting Nationals, throwing six innings of two-hit ball.

The Nationals were coming off a weekend sweep of Chicago Cubs and had won 12 of 14 to take control of the NL wild-card race before getting upended by the neighboring, last-place Orioles.

Brooks (4-7) came in with a 6.21 ERA and was facing a team averaging 9 1/2 runs over its last 11 games. The right-hander allowed just four baserunners and struck out six, including four in a row bridging the first and second innings.

Rookie Hunter Harvey worked out of a bases-loaded jam in the eighth, and Mychal Givens, the last of four Orioles relievers, got three straight outs to complete the four-hitter and earn his 11th save.

Cubs 5, Mets 2

In New York, Yu Darvish pitched eight masterful innings, Javier Báez homered and drove in three runs, and the Cubs topped the Mets in the opener of a pivotal three-game series in the NL wild-card race.

Báez and Addison Russell each hit a two-run homer off Marcus Stroman (7-12). Darvish (5-6) allowed five hits, struck out seven and issued one walk — his first in six starts since his last one on July 23.

Pete Alonso hit his 42nd home run for the Mets, becoming the first rookie in 81 years to break his team's season record.

Astros 15, Rays 1

In Houston, rookie Yordan Alvarez homered twice as Houston jumped on former teammate Charlie Morton to build a big lead before Justin Verlander was ejected in the sixth inning.

The Astros honored Morton (13-6) with a pregame video recounting the highlights of his two-year stint with the team.

Houston's hitters didn't give Morton nearly as warm of a reception in his first trip to Minute Maid Park since signing with the Rays.

Blue Jays 3, Braves 1

In Toronto, Justin Smoak homered and drove in two runs, leading Toronto to the victory.

Smoak hit an RBI single off Mike Soroka (10-3) in a two-run first, and added his 20th homer in the seventh against Sean Newcomb.

The NL East-leading Braves lost their second straight following an eight-game winning streak that matched a season high. They managed just four runs while playing in New York, Colorado and Toronto in a span of three days.

Reds 8, Marlins 5

In Miami, Curt Casali homered and drove in three runs, helping the Reds to the victory.

Casali hit a tying solo drive off Caleb Smith (8-8) in the fourth inning. He batted again in the fifth and hit a two-run single off Tyler Kinley, giving the Reds a 5-3 lead.

Cincinnati also got a big game from Eugenio Suárez, who went deep for the third straight day and finished with three hits. Suárez leads the team with 37 homers.

Red Sox 10, Rockies 6

In Denver, Jackie Bradley Jr. opened Boston's three-homer night with a solo shot into the third deck.

Bradley's estimated 478-foot blast in the second inning was the seventh-longest this season, according to Statcast.

Christian Vázquez added a two-run homer and Xander Bogaerts contributed a solo shot as the Red Sox ran their long-ball streak to 17 straight games.

Diamondbacks 3, Giants 2

In San Francisco, Mike Leake pitched into the eighth inning in his first win since joining Arizona in a trade.

Ketel Marte homered in the fifth for Arizona, but came up limping as he ran the bases and left because of a cramp in his right hamstring. Marte's single in the third gave him a 10-game hitting streak and career-best 21-game streak safely reaching base.

Leake (10-10) won his fifth start since he was acquired in a trade with Seattle on July 31.

Cardinals 6, Brewers 3

In Milwaukee, Yadier Molina homered twice and the NL Central-leading St. Louis Cardinals matched a season high with their sixth straight win in a rain-delayed game inside Miller Park.

Play was halted briefly with the Cardinals batting with two outs in seventh inning as rain poured through the open roof and fans rushed to the covered concourses. The delay lasted about nine minutes as the retractable roof closed.

Twins 3, White Sox 1

In Chicago, Marwin Gonzalez and Jonathan Schoop hit solo homers in the second inning, and Michael Pineda pitched five sharp innings to lead Minnesota.

Eddie Rosario knocked in an insurance run in the eighth as the AL Central-leading Twins won their third straight to remain 3 1/2 games ahead of Cleveland. Minnesota (80-51) moved to 29 games above .500 for the first time since Sept. 26, 2010.

Tim Anderson's 14th homer accounted for the only run off Pineda (10-5), who won his third straight start and fourth straight decision. The right-hander allowed four hits and walked one while striking out eight, but was replaced by Sam Dyson to start the sixth after 89 pitches.

Pirates 5, Phillies 4

In Philadelphia, Rhys Hoskins kept Phillies fans booing when he inexplicably dropped a routine throw at first base in the ninth, turning what appeared to be an inning-ending double play into the go-ahead run for Pittsburgh.

After a pair of one-out walks by Hector Neris (2-5), Kevin Newman hit a grounder to second baseman Cesar Hernandez that could've let the Phillies escape. Jean Segura's relay throw should have finishing the inning, but the struggling Hoskins seemed to close his mitt too early and the ball smacked off the leather and rolled away. Adam Frazier scrambled home to score the tiebreaking run in stunning fashion and the Phillies failed to gain ground in the NL wild-card race.

Indians 10, Tigers 1

In Detroit, Franmil Reyes hit a three-run homer to highlight a six-run seventh inning, and Cleveland beat the Tigers for the 12th straight time and 13 in 14 matchups this season.

Carlos Santana had three hits and scored three times for Cleveland, while four pitchers combined for 15 strikeouts.

Detroit is now 17-44 at Comerica Park and needs to win five of the final 20 home games to avoid becoming the first team since at least 1908 to lose 60 at home.

Angels 5, Rangers 2

In Anaheim, Kole Calhoun hit a two-run double and pinch-hitter Brian Goodwin added a two-run single in the seventh inning, helping Los Angeles snap its five-game skid.

Mike Trout also hit his 43rd homer in the eighth inning for the Angels, driving in 100 runs for the first time since 2016 with his solo shot to left.

Andrew Heaney had 10 strikeouts over six innings of four-hit ball in his second straight outstanding start against Texas, but he left trailing 1-0 before the Angels rallied to win the opener of a two-game series.

Dodgers 9, Padres 0

In San Diego, Walker Buehler dominated the Padres again, striking out 11 and allowing only four hits in six innings, and Joc Pederson homered to lead the NL West-leading Los Angeles Dodgers.

Buehler (11-3) was strong from the start, walking just two and allowing only three baserunners to reach scoring position. He improved to 4-0 with a 0.64 ERA in four career appearances against San Diego in two seasons.

Manuel Margot, who was beaned by Buehler in the second inning, made a leaping catch at the wall in center field in the sixth to rob Cody Bellinger of a two-run homer, which would have given him sole possession of the MLB lead with 43.

Nadal cruises; Tsitsipas, Thiem ousted

AP
Spain's Rafael Nadal tosses the ball for a serve to Australia's John Millman during the first round of the U.S. Open tennis tournament Tuesday, Aug. 27, 2019, in New York.

NEW YORK (AP)— Three-times champion Rafa Nadal denied John Millman any chance of posting another fairytale run in New York as he cruised by the Australian 6-3 6-2 6-2 in the first round of the U.S. Open on Tuesday.

Millman delivered the upset of the tournament last year when he beat five-times winner Roger Federer in a surprising run to the quarter-finals but he was unable to recreate the same magic against the relentless Spanish second seed.

Nadal said he came on court with a "lot of respect" for Millman.

"He showed last year what he is able to do when he is playing well," he said.

"Always at the beginning (of a tournament) the first match everything is a little bit new, even if I have played here plenty of times. The beginnings are not easy.

"To be the first match honestly I think I played a good match, hitting good backhands, some more mistakes maybe with the forehand than usual but generally happy with how I started."

Nadal, who last year retired from his semi-final with a knee injury after several grueling matches, was a model of efficiency in his opening match of the year's final Grand Slam.

The 33-year-old Spaniard, who snacked on some dates that were on a plate beside his courtside chair, seemed to get better as the match went on and made quick work of Millman in the final set where he went up an early double break for a 3-0 lead.

The only thing to rattle Nadal under the lights in Arthur Ashe Stadium came when he was getting ready to serve at 5-3 in the first set and the chair umpire issued a time violation that the Spaniard took issue with.

But Nadal, who denied that he was not ready to serve on time, did not let the incident knock him off course as he went on to close out the set in the ensuing game.

Nadal faced only three break points and easily turned aside each one. The first was in the opening game of the match, with Millman's other two chances to break coming in the final game of the second set.

By contrast, Nadal converted five of his 15 break point chances against Millman, who did not have the weaponry or pace to keep up with the 18-times Grand Slam champion.

Serving for the win at 5-2, Nadal sealed the deal on his second match point with a sizzling forehand down the line that left Millman no chance.

Up next for Nadal will be Australian wildcard Thanasi Kokkinakis.

In other games, Stefanos Tsitsipas accused a U.S. Open chair umpire of having a bias against him during a tirade in which he told the official, "You're all weirdos!"

Tsitsipas told Damien Dumusois that the cause of his bias was ''because you're French probably and you're all weirdos!"

The argument came midway through the fourth set of Tsitsipas' 6-4, 6-7 (5), 7-6 (7), 7-5 loss to Andrey Rublev on Tuesday, a day when he and fellow young star Dominic Thiem both lost in the first round for the second straight major tournament.

Tsitsipas, the No. 8 seed from Greece, appeared to be battling cramps and was slow to return to the court after losing his serve.

Dumusois told Tsitsipas it was time to play, but Tsitsipas was still reaching into his bag for a new headband and screamed at Dumusois that he still needed time to change. Dumusois responded that Tsitsipas would be penalized.

"I don't care," Tsitsipas replied. ''Do whatever you want, because you're the worst."

"I don't know what you have against me," Tsitsipas continued. "Because you're French probably and you're all weirdos! You're all weirdos!"

Dumusois is indeed French.

Tsitsipas had been angry that Dumusois believed he was getting coaching during the match from his father, Apostolos, which is not allowed.

"The chair umpire was very incorrect in what he was telling me during the match," Tsitsipas said afterward. "I don't know what this chair umpire has in specific against my team, but he's been complaining and telling me that my team talks all of the time when I'm out on the court playing. He's very—I don't know. I believe he's not right, because I never hear anything of what my team says from the outside."

Tsitsipas added that he thought tennis needed more umpires who are fair to all players.

"I feel like some of them have preferences when they are on the court," he said.

Tsitsipas opened his Grand Slam season by beating Roger Federer en route to the Australian Open semifinals. He fell at Wimbledon to Thomas Fabbiano, who then sent Thiem to another quick exit by beating the No. 4 seed 6-4, 3-6, 6-3, 6-2 on a day when four top-10 seeds in the bottom half of the bracket were upset.

The two-time French Open runner-up said he was battling an illness leading into the tournament and said he was exhausted after two sets.

"I'm far away from 100%," Thiem said. "Like this, it's very tough to win."

Tsitsipas was clear that his problems stemmed from the influence of Dumusois.

"Well, it's not very pleasant when you have the umpire give you warnings and time violations and coaching violations during a match," Tsitsipas said. "It can affect your thinking. It can affect your decision-making."

Kyrgios calls ATP corrupt

Nick Kyrgios called the ATP "corrupt" on Tuesday night for fining him more than $100,000 this month for his behavior during a match.

Asked if that recent punishment from the men's tour—only the latest in a long series that also included a suspension—affected him mentally coming into the U.S. Open, he replied: "Not at all. ATP's pretty corrupt, anyway, so I'm not fussed about it at all."

Kyrgios insulted a chair umpire and left the court to smash two rackets during a second-round loss at the Western & Southern Open this month.

The next day, the ATP listed a breakdown of eight fines ranging from $3,000 to $20,000 each, for violations such as unsportsmanlike conduct, verbal abuse and audible obscenity.

When a reporter asked a follow-up question about his use of the word "corrupt" following his straight-set victory over Steve Johnson that ended past 1 a.m. on Wednesday at Flushing Meadows, Kyrgios first referenced his fines totaling $113,000.

Then he added: "Why are we talking about something that happened three weeks ago, when I just chopped up someone (in the) first round of U.S. Open?"

Kyrgios defeated American Steve Johnson, 6-3, 7-6 (7/1), 6-4

Coco delivers in US Open debut

As dusk descended over Queens on Tuesday night, ribbons of pink laced the western sky, and 15-year-old Cori (Coco) Gauff taught us a lesson.

You underestimate her resilience and competitive mettle at your own peril. You count her out, no matter how shaky she looks—and she looked positively petrified in the early going of her first grown-up US Open—and you are likely going to be very wrong.

When most of the tennis world last saw Gauff, pride of Delray Beach, Florida, she was captivating Wimbledon with her girlish charm and preternatural calm, to say nothing of her astonishing array of tennis weapons. In a first-round match inside a rowdy Louis Armstrong Stadium, Gauff found a way into the round of 64, despite 11 double faults and a debacle of a first set, and looking as wobbly as a three-legged chair.

She was tight. She was tentative, not hitting freely at all. And still she was able to gather herself, producing a 3-6, 6-2, 6-4 triumph over Anastasia Potapova, an 18-year-old, 72nd-ranked Russian. It was a result achieved with more grit than artistry, but hey, whatever it takes.

And besides, hadn't we seen this quality before? In her run to the fourth round of Wimbledon, didn't Gauff overcome a 3-6, 0-3 deficit and save two match points against Slovenia's Polona Hercog in the third round?

Yes she did.

"It was crazy," Gauff said. "Obviously I was nervous going out on the court. It's such a big court, (and) my home slam, so I wanted to do well."

Next up for Gauff, a 140th-ranked wild-card entrant, Timea Babos, a Hungarian qualifier, who advanced when No. 28 Carla Suarez Navarro retired after losing the first set, 6-2.

Meanwhile, reigning champion Naomi Osaka described her relief at navigating a tricky first round match Tuesday as she was struck by a bout of nerves in a three-set win over Russia's Anna Blinkova.

Osaka suffered a first-round exit last month at Wimbledon and the Japanese star found a spirited Blinkova hard to put away in Arthur Ashe Stadium before she advanced 6-4, 6-7 (5/7), 6-2 in two hours and 28 minutes.

"I felt nervous. For me it's definitely a new feeling. Never had to come into a tournament as—well, come into a Grand Slam (as champion)," Osaka said.

"I mean, I went to Indian Wells once. So I did feel like that gave me a little bit of practice, but the amount of nerves that I felt today was completely different than in California. I'm kind of really glad that's over."

Barca says Neymar transfer deal 'closer'

PARIS—Neymar said he had "realized" his dream with a cameo appearance in his favorite Netflix show as later Tuesday there was a fresh plot twist in his long-running Paris Saint-Germain transfer drama.

The Brazil forward is anxious for a move back to Spain with both Barcelona and Real Madrid trying to seal a deal before the European transfer window closes next Monday.

"We are continuing negotiations, we are closer to a deal," Barca director Javier Bordas told reporters at Barcelona airport after returning from a meeting with PSG in the French capital.

But he added: "As yet there is still no deal."

According to French newspaper Le Parisien, Neymar's former club have upped their offer to 170 million euros, payable in two installments, with possibly players attached.

Barca sold the 27-year-old to PSG in 2017 for a world record 222 million euros.

Earlier Neymar tweeted his delight at appearing in the Netflix crime drama La Casa de Papel (Money Heist).

He was originally edited out by pending the outcome of his rape case.

Once Brazilian police dropped their investigation last month, Netflix re-released the episodes to include the Paris Saint-Germain forward.

"I was able to realize my dream and be part of my favorite series. And now I can share Joao (his character) with you all! Thank you @lacasadepapel!" he told his Twitter followers.

The world's most expensive player has a small role in Season 3 of the crime drama, which follows a gang of robbers and their assault on the Bank Of Spain.

"I don't like football nor partying," Neymar's character says.

"At the World Cup, I always pray for our team," he adds.

AP

Brazil's soccer player Neymar kicks the ball during a practice session at the Granja Comary training center ahead of the Copa America tournament, in Teresopolis, Brazil, Tuesday, May 28, 2019.

Neymar was accused by Najila Trindade, a Brazilian model of rape in a Paris hotel in May.

He vehemently denied the allegations, with the case dismissed by a judge in Sao Paulo on August 9.

Meanwhile, one of the top players in the world will be on the sidelines for a while.

Well, two, actually, and both play for the same club.

Paris Saint-Germain's Kylian Mbappe is out for three weeks and Edinson Cavani a month, the latter missing a friendly against the US-MNT next month.

The injuries come as PSG boss Thomas Tuchel grouses about healthy Neymar's refusal to play for the club while trying to engineer a transfer to either Barcelona or Real Madrid.

PSG lost at Rennes and has won twice early this season. Mbappe will miss Friday's match at Metz and the Sept. 14 visit from Strasbourg and is a question for the start of the UEFA Champions League group stage (Sept. 17-18).

Any setbacks would mean he'd be out for a monumental tilt at Lyon on Sept. 22.

In other news, after watching Barcelona rout Real Betis from the stands, the injured Lionel Messi went down to the dressing room to give a special hug to a couple of youngsters on the team.

He embraced the 21-year-old Carles Perez, who had just scored his first goal with the senior team, and the 16-year-old Ansu Fati, who had made his debut.

Both helped in Barcelona's 5-2 win last weekend, the team's first in the Spanish league this season.

"Great game from everyone," Messi said in an Instagram post that included a photo of him hugging Fati. "Happy to see the academy guys fulfilling their dreams of making it to the first team and scoring at the Camp Nou in an official match."

Barcelona took the opportunity to promote the youngsters as Messi, Luis Suarez and Ousmane Dembele were all out injured. Newly signed forward Antoine Griezmann was the main attraction at the home opener, scoring twice—his first goals since joining from Atletico Madrid.

Perez was making only his third appearance with the first team, and his first start. The forward had come off the bench in the last game of last season and in the first of this season. He scored after beating a defender inside the area and hitting a well-placed low shot into the corner.

Gronkowski opens door for possible NFL return

Former New England Patriots tight end Rob Gronkowski doesn't see himself returning to the NFL "in the foreseeable future"—but he certainly isn't closing the door on the possibility, either.

"If I have the desire to play football again, if I feel passionate about football again, if I'm feeling like I need to be out there on the field, I will go back to football," Gronkowski told reporters at a news conference Tuesday.

"But as of right now, that is not the case. It could be the case in six months, it could be the case in two years. ... But I truly don't see it in the foreseeable future, in like a week or a month."

Nevertheless, though, Gronkowski said he's still in football shape.

"Physically, I'll be ready. I could play right now if I wanted to play. Hands down," he added. "Physically-wise, I could do it. Mentally-wise, desire-wise, it's not there. My mind, my soul keeps telling me 'you need more time off.'"

Gronkowski announced his retirement in March after nine seasons in the NFL, a career that included five Pro Bowl nods and three Super Bowl titles. He told reporters Tuesday that he chose to leave the sport because he "was not in a good place" and told a story about laying in bed in tears after New England's Super Bowl LIII win over the Los Angeles Rams because he couldn't cope with the pain of a quad injury he suffered during the game.

"Football was bringing me down, and I didn't like it," Gronkowski said, growing visibly emotional as he spoke. "I was losing that joy in life, the joy. I really was. ... I'm very satisfied with where I am in life now."

"I know (in) the NFL, players are dealing with that type of stuff. They're dealing with pain," he said. "And I was. I needed to walk away, because I needed to do what was best for myself at that moment."

Meanwhile, Kyle Shanahan still has not announced which wide receivers will start for the 49ers this season.

The 49ers have held a wide-open competition at wide receiver throughout training camp and preseason, a competition featuring mostly young, unproven players such as Dante Pettis, Deebo Samuel and Jalen Hurd. Shanahan hoped two of his receivers would have secured starting spots by now.

"It's a position we haven't been in at receiver," Shanahan said Tuesday. "I think the guys we've had have all gotten better, and we have some new guys pushing people."

The 49ers entered the past two regular seasons with two clear-cut starting receivers: Pierre Garcon and Marquise Goodwin. But Goodwin struggled last season —he caught just 23 passes for 395 yards and four touchdowns in 11 games.

Garcon is no longer with the 49ers—they declined to pick up the option in his contract on Feb. 14. To replace him, the 49ers drafted not just one, but two wide receivers this year: Deebo Samuel in Round 2, and Jalen Hurd in Round 3.

Samuel has a chance to start if he plays well during the 49ers' preseason finale Thursday against the Los Angeles Chargers. Through three preseason games, Samuel has caught four passes for 88 yards, and rushed twice for 59 yards. He has been one of the 49ers' most consistent receivers since camp started.

Hurd has a chance to start as well if he's healthy. But, he injured his back during the 49ers' preseason game against the Denver Broncos on Aug. 19, hasn't played or practiced since and will not play Thursday against the Chargers.

Trent Taylor, the 49ers slot receiver, has a fracture in his foot and probably will miss the regular-season opener. "We'll see if he's ready Week 1, but highly unlikely," Shanahan said Tuesday.

Pettis could start Week 1. The 49ers traded up to take him with the 44th pick of the 2017 draft, and expected he would improve dramatically this year. So far, he hasn't.

"We are still trying to find a role for him," Shanahan said. "He can be our best punt returner. He can be our No. 1 receiver, our No. 2 receiver, a slot receiver or just a role receiver. He has shown he can do all of that, but he hasn't shown it consistently enough that we know exactly where to put him."

Pettis said Shanahan wants him to play with more urgency.

"I have such a long, smooth stride, a lot of times it looks like I'm not going hard," Pettis said. "The way I run my routes might be different than someone who has shorter strides. So, shortening up my strides is one way to do that."

During the 49ers' most recent preseason game, Pettis played into the fourth quarter, something starters rarely do. And on his final play, he strained his groin. He will not play Thursday against the Chargers, which means he will not have another opportunity to compete for a starting job before the season starts.

"I have been hard on Dante," Shanahan said. "But, if anyone knows me, I am the hardest on people I believe in, and I do believe in him a lot. I am always going to be probably a little disappointed, because I think he can be very good, and it's important to our team that he is."

Docomo Pacific dominates Gilas Batang

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

Docomo Pacific hammered Gilas Batang 92-68, in last Friday's game in the 2019 One Pacific Promotional Basketball League at the Civic Center Court in Susupe.

Docomo Pacific demolished Gilas Batang by starting out strong and finishing the game even stronger.

Right at the get-go, Docomo Pacific came out hot, firing 32 points in the first quarter for an early double-digit spread. Shane Deleon Guerrero led Docomo's jackrabbit start, as he scored 17 points, while Tony Diaz added 7 to lift their team to a 31-17 advantage.

Gilas Batang, after being left in the dust in the opening quarter, made an effort to catch up with Docomo Pacific in the second frame. However, Batang Gilas had little success, as Docomo was still in front at the halftime break, 46-34.

When the game resumed, both teams struggled in the third period, allowing Docomo to keep the wide gap, 59-46. Then in the fourth canto, Docomo finished off Gilas Batang by exploding for 33 points.

Diaz had 10 points in the final period and top-scored for Docomo Pacific with his 27 markers. Deleon Guerrero chipped in 22. Dick Tibayan had 16 for Gilas Batang, which has yet to win a game after six matches. Docomo improved to an even 2-2 record.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Docomo Pacific's Shane Deleon Guerrero receives a gift certificate from organizers of the 2019 One Pacific Promotional Basketball League after helping his team win over Gilas Batang, 92-68, last Friday at the Civic Center Court in Susupe.

Meanwhile, IT&E Dark prevailed against Max's Restaurant in last Saturday's game, 79-61.

IT&E Dark got its second victory in five matches, while Max's fell to a 1-3 mark.

IT&E Dark made 22 points in the first quarter to take control of the game and never lost the upper hand for an 18-point winning margin.

Friday Game

Docomo Pacific 92—Diaz 27, Deleon Guerrero 22, Lukas 8, Hayes 7, Sanciangco 5, Manibusan 4, Grow 3, Kaipat 3, Mendiola 2.

Gilas Batang 68—Tibayan 16, Ege 14, Dacumos 8, Acosta 8, Hernandez 7, Estores 6, Rosario 4, Lumanlan 4.

Scoring by quarters: 32-17, 46-34, 59-46, 92-68.

Saturday Game

IT&E Dark 79—Castro 18, Devero 13, Chan 12, Aguon 10, Abuan 9, Brana 6, Garcia 4, Peredo 4, Duero 2.

Max's Restaurant 61—Herrera 18, Lerio 16, Rotap 7, Salalila 6, Paynor 6, Banasco 3, Tibayan 3, Loyola 2.

Scoring by quarters: 22-17, 40-33, 60-46, 79-61

Woods reveals offseason knee surgery

Tiger Woods has gone under the knife again.

In a Tuesday tweet, Woods revealed an offseason medical procedure he underwent shortly after his 2018-19 season came to an end at the BMW Championship.

Woods had what was described as an arthroscopic procedure on his left knee last week to "repair minor cartilage damage."

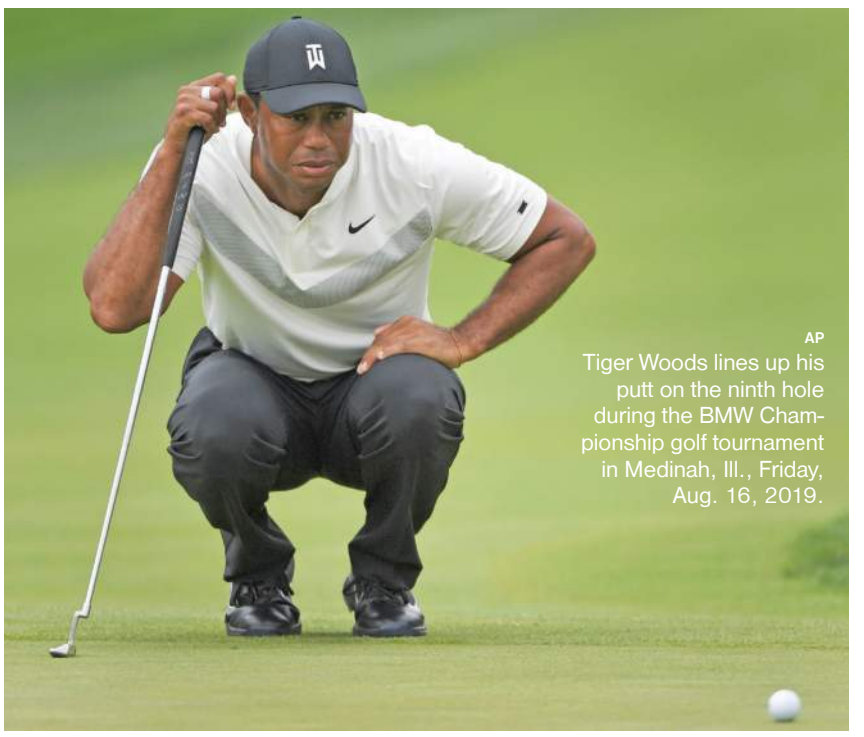
"I expect Tiger to make a full recovery," said Dr. Vern Cooley. "We did what was needed, and also examined the entire knee. There were no additional problems."

Cooley has operated on Woods' left knee in the past, including in the days following the 2008 U.S Open victory to repair a torn ACL and a double stress fracture in his left tibia.

This is the first operation Woods has publicly revealed since his spinal fusion in 2017, from which he returned to win the 2018 Tour Championship and 2019 Masters.

Woods withdrew from his second-to-last event of the season after Round 1 of the Northern Trust but returned the following week for a T-37 finish at the BMW Championship. He also pulled out of the Arnold Palmer Invitational in March for health reasons.

Woods has undergone at least eight back and knee surgeries throughout his career and dealt with a laundry list of injuries. He played just 12 events this season in order to help preserve his body after making 18 starts in 2018.



AP
Tiger Woods lines up his putt on the ninth hole during the BMW Championship golf tournament in Medinah, Ill., Friday, Aug. 16, 2019.

"I would like to thank Dr. Cooley and his team," Woods said in the tweet. "I'm walking now and hope to resume practice in the next few weeks. I look forward to traveling and playing in Japan in October."

Woods is already committed to the inaugural Zozo Championship in Tokyo this fall, where he will also reportedly play a skins game with Rory McIlroy, Jason Day and Hideki Matsuyama.

He is also expected to play and host his annual Hero World Challenge tournament in the Bahamas the week before he's set to captain the U.S. Presidents Cup team in Australia.

TRACK

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roof during Yutu. We need to order some more stuff for the hammer throw, and waterblast the track," Iginoef said.

However, Iginoef belives that minor renovations won't suffice if the goal is to prolong the facility's life span.

"I think we should redo the track because if we just resurface those small damages, we'll never know where the water is and it's going to peel off in three to four years, again. I think we should redo it to make it last another 10 to 15 years, instead of just making repairs and seeing bubbles in four to five years," the NMSA staff added.

Iginoef said that the money to renovate and repair the track, along with the rest of the facilities at the Oleai Sports Complex, will come from the funding allocated to NMSA by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Meanwhile, Northern Marianas Athletics president Ray Tebuteb said that the track facility is "repairable" and although there are major renovations needed, a redo may not be necessary.

Tebuteb, however, reiterated that it is critical to bring the facility back to International Association of Athletics Federation certification standards and maintain that grade.

"I'm going to say it's 50-50, between minor and major repairs. I'm talking about keeping it at that certification level (Level II). You also have to look at it being a community property. There are certain things you have to do to keep up with that," said.

Tebuteb added that the current repairs to the track are temporary and a permanent fix is forthcoming.

"If you walk the track, you'll see the damage from the typhoon, but because of the events that we have had, we had to temporarily patch those up, but that's not a professional job. The concern is our athletes' safety when on the track, that's why we had temporary repairs," he said.

TEEN

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have their last training session on Sept. 10 and leave for Jakarta on Sept. 12. The CNMI players will go up against the hosts, China, Brunei, and the Philippines. The top finisher in Group G and 10 other pools plus the five best runners-up will qualify in the finals that will take place from Sept. 3 to 16, 2020.

Meanwhile, Mita said the three matches they played in the Marianas Invitational Football Tournament were good warm-ups for several U15 players who suited up for the CNMI Boys U18 National Team.

Oliver Fajardo, Kohtaro Goto, Merrick Toves, Kaden Church, Brian Lubao, and Jim Maniago played in the three-day tournament with the former scoring the winning goal in the squad's thrilling 4-3 victory over the highly competitive Beijing Elite Core Club. The U18 crew also defeated Beijing 97 Return United Football Club and the M-League All-Stars to rule the tournament.

ARC

From Page 28

The Aqua Resort duo outgunned the entire TanHoldings crew in the second period, as the losing squad was held to four field goals and none of its players hit more than one basket in the meltdown.

Lawrence Deleon Guerrero tried to pick up the slack for TanHoldings in the third quarter when he knocked in three triples and posted 12 points. However, TanHoldings fell behind further, as Deleon Guerrero failed to get help from his teammates, while Aqua Resort drew contributions from a different set of players with Itaas and Ferrer taking a back seat.

Joseph Maratita stepped up in the penultimate frame with his 10 points, while Daryll Metran and Jofred Laboro added 8 and 7 markers, respectively, to lift Aqua Resort to a 93-47 lead.

Despite sitting comfortably on top, Aqua Resort showed no mercy to TanHoldings in the fourth quarter and reached past the century mark.

Itaas paced Aqua Resort with his 25 points and he also had a team-high six assists. Maratita finished with 14 markers, while Lancaster Secharmidal, Ferrer, and Metran contributed 12, 11, and 10, respectively.

Deleon Guerrero tallied 19 points to lead TanHoldings.

Meanwhile, there will be no games in the MIBL this week and matches will resume on Sept. 6 with IT&E taking on Caravan's in the first game at 6pm and Bridge Capital battling Saipan Vegas in the second tiff at 7:30pm. Caravan's, IT&E, and Saipan Vegas won their debuts, while Bridge Capital lost its opener to the latter.

The league is taking a brief break due to schedule conflicts with the matches venue.

Aqua Resort 112—Itaas 25, Maratita 14, Secharmidal 12, Ferrer 11, Metran 10, Arellano 8, Laboro 9, David 8, Mendiola 5, Salazar 4, Tolentino 4, Delos Santos 2.

TanHoldings 68—Deleon Guerrero 19, Dayao 15, Alipio 12, Torregosa 5, Centina 4, Quinitip 4, Nonato 3, Lumen 2, Tenepere 2.

Scoring by quarter: 26-18, 56-28, 93-47, 112-68

Judge, Tanaka power Yankees past Mariners

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Nadal cruises: Tsitsipas, Thiem ousted

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Oleai track facility needs repair, again

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

With the CNMI hosting the Pacific Mini Games two years from now, the Oleai Sports Complex track and field facility will have to undergo repair work anew.

The track just went through resurfacing last year, but signs of damage have been seen with the rubberized turf along with its other features, no thanks to Super Typhoon Yutu that hit the island in October last year.

Greg Iginoef, head of maintenance for the Northern Marianas Sports Association, which manages and operates the Oleai Sports Complex, said that NMSA has been slowly renovating the track facility. He said that they are fixing the track's surface, railings, and drainage. Iginoef added they also need equipment for the facility.

"For the Mini Games, we just need to make those small repairs. Some of the surface is peeling off and when you walk on it, you will see some cracks on the track from the tin

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Temporary repair has been done in the damaged surface at the Oleai Sports Complex track oval.

ARC triumphs; MIBL resumes Sept. 6

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Aqua Resort Club was on fire, as it torched TanHoldings, 112-68, in the second game in the Atkins Kroll Marianas International Basketball League last Saturday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

Aqua Resort's output is the biggest so far in six games in the inaugural league and its winning margin is also the widest early into the season, giving the team a rousing debut and handing TanHoldings a 0-2 record.

TanHoldings, which was also badly beaten by Saipan Vegas (80-108) in its first game, stayed in the match only in the first quarter, as Aqua Resort just took an 8-point lead after the opening 10 minutes of play, 26-18.

Then in the next 10 minutes, Aqua Resort's guns were blazing and TanHoldings could not retaliate, allowing the former to open a big 56-28 halftime advantage. Lefty Kristian Itaas and shifty guard Mark Ferrer teamed up in the second-quarter breakaway after combining for 18 points or more than half of Aqua Resort's production. Itaas had a triple in the second frame and scored 10 to finish the half with 19 markers. Ferrer, on the other hand, made up for his 1-point performance in the opening quarter after delivering 8 in the second.

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
IT&E's Errol Peredo, third left, is hounded by MS Villagomez defenders during the second quarter of their game in the Atkins Kroll Marianas International Basketball League last Saturday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

Teen Ayuyus move training sessions to Oleai pitch

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI Boys U15 National Team will train at the Oleai Sports Complex Field in the last two weeks of its preparation for next month's Asian Football Confederation U16 Championship 2020 Qualifiers.

Coach Michiteru Mita has moved the Teen Ayuyus' practice sessions to the Oleai pitch from the NMI Soccer Training Center, as they have to get use to a natural grass field—which is the kind of turf available in Jakarta, Indonesia. The Southeast Asian country will host the Group G qualifier from Sept. 14 to 22.

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association has already informed Northern Marianas Sports Association of the new training schedule and has also reached out to Marianas Rugby Club, which is using the facility for its practices and scrimmages. NMIFA has cleared the pitch, making it easier for other groups to use the facility. However, the association has requested MRC to allow the national youth team to use the field on Sept. 5.

The Teen Ayuyus will

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
CNMI Boys U18 National Team players train at the Oleai Sports Complex Field in preparation for next month's Asian Football Confederation U16 Championship 2020 Qualifiers in Jakarta, Indonesia.